

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
RECORDS SECTION12-30, 1954

☐ Name Check Unit-Room 6523
☒ Attention Dolan
☐ Service Unit-Room 6524
☐ Forward to File Review
☒ Return to Wadd Ext. 2103
 Supervisor
 Room 4732

☒ All References
☐ Subversive References
☐ Main References Only
☐ Main _____ References Only
☒ Restrict to Locality of W. J.
☐ Breakdown ☐ Buildup ☐ Variations
☒ Exact Name Only
☒ Exact Spelling
☐ Check for Alphabetical Loyalty Form

SUBJECT Alexander, James W.
 Address W. J.

Localities _____
 Birthdate & Place _____

R# _____ Date 12/30 per ftz
 Searcher Initial Ch
 FILE NUMBER SERIAL

100 - 151472
Dis. Com. Rpt. Vol
#1 p 691
Dis. Com. Rpt. W.
Steele #1 p 387
116 - 142594 - 11, 12
100 - 326 - 31 - 11 p 2
100 - 3 - 28 - 1110 enc.
p 20
100 - 355406 - Rpt.
Daily W. bc 1-3-54

SEARCH SLIP

Subj: James W. AlexanderSupervisor Todd Room 4732R# _____ Date 2/30 Searcher Initial per 7FILE NUMBERSERIAL121-2673-4 end p 17116-222216-761-7546-204, 121100-146964-15161-524-65100-61157-18121-2673-94100-366605-56121-22269-3123-7397-11100-326-31-12 p 8365-59104-16100-190625-1267100-123694-261-7582-1380 p 3861-5047-73 p 187-1014-10365-59104-12100-61159-29

SEARCH SLIP

Subj: James W. AlexanderSupervisor Dodd Room 4732R# _____ Date 12/30 Searcher Initial ffFILE NUMBERSERIAL100-10123-156 xp3100-235070-404 p2100-92526-981100-17826-150 p10100-342972-1195100-341759-12105-13320-25100-344903-25 p10124-3527-262-77787-4631 enc46100-146964-577

Rec. via Liaison
from La Plante
11-17-54 (P.M.)
club

CONFIDENTIAL

November 17, 1954

Louis L. Strauss, Chairman
U. S. Atomic Energy Commission

Dwight F. LaPlante, Chief

Washington Area Security Operations

Conversation with Senator E. Alexander Smith re

Dr. John Van Neumann, Dayton Veterans

of which in any manner to an unauthorized person is prohibited by law.

RE: DR. JOHN VAN NEUMANN

As you instructed, I made an appointment with Senator Smith and saw him at 3:45 p. m. yesterday afternoon at which time he read my memorandum to you dated November 15, 1954, concerning my interview with Dr. Dayton Veterans of Princeton, New Jersey.

After reading the memorandum, Senator Smith made the following observations:

- a. That he hoped the Commission was satisfied there was no security implication in the proposed statement of Dr. Van Neumann.

I informed him that Dr. Van Neumann has been thoroughly indoctrinated in accordance with the AEC and that he was, therefore, well informed of the AEC's position on this case since 1947.

- b. Whether or not Mrs. Russell, secretary to Dr. Oppenheimer, is to be made secretary to Dr. Van Neumann.

I stated that there was no truth whatsoever to this and that you said Dr. Van Neumann has never entertained the idea.

He added that he did not personally know of any information that would reflect upon Dr. Van Neumann from a security standpoint and that Dr. Van Neumann also had made such a statement; that his main concern, however, was the close association of Dr. Van Neumann and Dr. Oppenheimer. He hastened to add, however, that he was sure that you were fully aware of this fact and was satisfied or you would not have named Dr. Oppenheimer as Director of the Institute for Advanced Studies.

Senator Smith seemed relieved after my explanation that a new facility is being provided in Princeton for the purpose of retaining custody of all the classified materials and that the material would be under the direct custody of the AEC. He also said that he was sure that you were fully aware of this fact and was satisfied or you would not have named Dr. Oppenheimer as Director of the Institute for Advanced Studies.

77-64804-
7442

77-64804-26
WTK

Louis L. Strauss

- 2 -

November 17, 1954

Senator Smith stated that he was apprehensive about a Professor James W. Alexander, a member of the Institute, who is reported to be a member of the Communist Party. I added that I knew nothing about the matter until Mr. Vohres mentioned it last Friday and that I would refer it to the FBI as a matter of interest to that Agency.

Senator Smith was pleased to receive the information and discuss the matter with me. He said that he intended to call Mr. Vohres today and inform him that he, Senator Smith, is satisfied that the AEC is fully cognizant and aware of any Security implications concerning its interest at the Institute and that he was sure the information would satisfy Mr. Vohres who had originally contacted him in the matter.

cc: General Manager
Director of Security

100-157472-13
James W. Alexander
sent to AEC 11/22
cc 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100
JW

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **BUREAU**

REPORT MADE AT WASHINGTON, D. C.	DATE WHEN MADE 12/2/54	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 10/11,14; 11/26/54	REPORT MADE BY
TITLE JOHN VON NEUMANN			CHARACTER OF CASE SPECIAL INQUIRY b7C

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

The files of WFO T-1 reflect applicant refused election to the German Academy of Science in 1950. The State Department, Passport Office files reviewed. Applicant's 1937 passport unavailable for review.

- RUC -

REFERENCES: Bureau teletype to Albuquerque dated October 4, 1954.
b7C Report of SA [REDACTED] at Washington Field dated October 13, 1954.
 Bureau airtel to Washington Field dated October 12, 1954.

DETAILS: AT WASHINGTON, D. C.

The files of WFO T-1, another government agency which conducts security and personnel type investigations, reflected that a telegram was received from Confidential Informant T-2 in Berlin, Germany, dated July 13, 1950, which reflected that a German newspaper, Sed Neues Deutschland, on July 13, 1950, announced that the Communist dominated the German Academy of Science, in the Berlin Soviet Sector, had elected two Americans as associate members. These Americans were JOHN VON NEUMANN, Professor of Mathematics, Princeton University, and one RICHARD V. MISES, Professor of Mathematics, Harvard University.

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES 116-1914-25
COPIES OF THIS REPORT 2 - Bureau (116-1914) 1 - Washington Field (116-875)	

WFO 116-875

According to the newspaper, the election had taken place on June 29, 1950.

Confidential Informant T-2 requested Confidential Informant T-1 that NEUMANN and MISES be contacted to ascertain if they were aware of the Academy's action and whether they were willing to issue statements refusing election.

Confidential Informant T-2 pointed out that NEUMANN and MISES might be unaware of the Communist front nature of the Academy.

The files further indicated that on September 16, 1950, the applicant directed a letter to Confidential Informant T-3, an employee of Confidential Informant T-1, which letter advised that he had sent a declination to Professor STROUX, President of the German Academy of Science in Berlin, which letter, in the German language was enclosed for Confidential Informant T-3's information.

The files also noted that [redacted] had also declined election to the Academy by letter dated September 12, 1950.

No additional or derogatory information concerning the applicant was found in the files of Confidential Informant T-1.

The files of the United States State Department Passport Office, were reviewed by SA [redacted] and following information concerning the applicant was found therein:

Passport number 405095 was issued to the applicant on June 29, 1954, for a proposed trip of eight weeks due to England, Sweden, Germany, and Italy; purpose of which indicated as "scientific conferences." The application this passport indicated that the applicant was born on December 28, 1903, at Budapest, Hungary, and that he had immigrated to the United States in September, 1931. It indicated that the applicant was naturalized in the United States District Court at Trenton, New Jersey, on January 1937, receiving Certificate Number 4196342. The applicant's permanent residence was indicated as 26 Westcott Street, Princeton, New Jersey.

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

INFORMANTS

Confidential Informant WFO T-1

The files of the United States State Department, Security Office, as reviewed by SA [REDACTED] b7C

Confidential Informant WFO T-2

The United States State Department Embassy at Berlin, Germany, which sent a telegram to the State Security Office dated 7/13/50 which telegram was signed with only the last name "PAGE!"

Confidential Informant WFO T-3

Mr. S. B. CHILDS, a United States State Department employee to whom the applicant directed a letter stating he had declined election to the German Academy of Science.

February 25, 1955

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. TOLSON
MR. BOARDMAN
MR. BELMONT
MR. NICHOLS

This afternoon Admiral Lewis L. Strauss, Chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission, called to see me. The Admiral stated that in connection with the confirmation of John Von Neumann he, the Chairman, had been informed that certain members of the Senate may raise some questions concerning Von Neumann about two matters which appear in Von Neumann file. One of these matters relates to the fact that Von Neumann's relatives live in Budapest and have considerable funds and that this is indicative of the fact that some deal must have been made by Von Neumann's relatives with the Russians in order to continue to live in that style. Admiral Strauss stated he had talked to Von Neumann about this particular information and Von Neumann stated that to the contrary his relatives did not live in Budapest but in some other town in Hungary and that he, Von Neumann, was supporting them and that they were not of ample means.

Maurice *Canada*
The second piece of information in the Von Neumann file is that Halperin, who was involved in the Canadian spy case, was at one time a student of Von Neumann at Princeton University, and later, when Halperin was arrested in connection with the Canadian spy case, Von Neumann and several other professors signed a message sent to Prime Minister Mackenzie King of Canada expressing their confidence in Halperin and urging that a fair trial be given him. According to Admiral Strauss, Halperin was not convicted and he, the Admiral, in talking with Von Neumann, is convinced that Von Neumann's motivation in signing the wire was not in any way connected with subversive leanings.

I think it would be well for us to review our files on Von Neumann because I assume we made an investigation of him at some time and have a summary prepared upon same and particularly see whether the two pieces of adverse information mentioned to me by Admiral Strauss came from the FBI files or from other sources.

Tolson _____
Boardman _____
Nichols _____
Belmont _____
Harbo _____
Mohr _____
Parsons _____
Rosen _____
Tamm _____
 Sizoo _____
Winterrowd _____
Tele. Room _____
Holloman _____
Gandy _____

JEH:mpd

I understood from Admiral Strauss that the hearings in the Von Neumann case will be started shortly by Congress.

RECORDED - 81

Very truly yours, *77-64804-*

JEH
John Edgar Hoover
Director

SENT FROM D. O.	
TIME	6:07 PM
DATE	2/25/55
BY	<i>JEH</i>

EX-125

63 MAR 2 - 1955

UNITED STATES
ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

February 7, 1955

47P
The Honorable
The Attorney General
U. S. Department of Justice
Washington 25, D.C.

48
Dear Mr. Attorney General:

This is to inform you that on February 7, 1955, the Atomic Energy Commission personnel security clearance files of Dr. John von Neumann were transmitted to the Joint Committee on Atomic Energy in response to a written request from the Committee dated February 7, 1955.

Compliance with the Committee's request was made in accordance with provisions of memorandum dated April 8, 1948, signed by the Attorney General and the Chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission.

Sincerely yours,

K. D. Nichols
K. D. Nichols
General Manager

FBI

14-200-111

1955 M. E. M.

DEPUTY ATTY. GENERAL

add 3/1/55

RECORDED - 70

EX-101

77-64809-39

21 MAR 2 1955

WPT

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. Tolson

FROM : L. B. Nichols

SUBJECT: JOHN VON NEUMANN
ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION

DATE: February 11, 1955

Tolson ✓
Boardman ✓
Belmont ✓
Harbo ✓
Mohr ✓
Parsons ✓
Rosen ✓
Tamm ✓
Sizoo ✓
Winterrowd ✓
Tele. Room ✓
Holloman ✓
Gandy ✓

Frank Cotter, former Special Agent who is now a member of the Joint Committee on Atomic Energy called at my office today. He pointed out that Senator Anderson, Chairman of the Joint Committee, has endeavored to handle the confirmation of Dr. John Von Neumann on a discreet manner. There is opposition to Von Neumann and Cotter advised me confidentially that the general attitude of the Committee is that they do not desire that it be known that there is any issue on Von Neumann. Senator Anderson directed the staff to review the Atomic Energy Commission files including the FBI reports on Von Neumann. The staff then briefed the Committee and Anderson had the AEC file sent to the Committee where the contents were made available to members of the Committee. Senator Anderson then suggested that members of the Committee who had questions speak privately to Von Neumann. This, members of the Committee have done. Cotter then pointed out that in one of our reports a reference is made that a letter was sent to Prime Minister Mackenzie King at Ottawa, Canada, by Oswald Veblen of the Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton regarding Israel Halperin; that among the signers of the statement was the name John Von Neumann.

In this connection a check of our files reflect the following:

cc - Mr. Boardman
cc - Mr. Rosen

LBN:ptm
(4)

RECORDED - 76

INDEXED - 70

77-64804-240

L. V. 23 1955

Referred to
to Tolson 2-16-55
WPK

6
1-12

Memo for Mr., Tolson from L. B. Nichols

RE: JOHN VON NEUMANN
ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION

b7D

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

According to Cotter, members of the Committee spoke to Von Neumann and inquired if he had sent a letter to Prime Minister Mackenzie King on behalf of Israel Halperin. Von Neumann stated that it was his recollection that a letter was sent ^{not} to Mackenzie King, but to the President of the College where Halperin was employed requesting that a final judgment not be made against Halperin until all the facts were in. Von Neumann further asserted that he was not approached by Oswald Veblen, but was approached by a Professor Tucker who signed the letter.

Bureau's report and the Committee wants to have the [REDACTED] Cotter stated that [REDACTED] This, of course, is a fact. He further stated that public hearings have now been scheduled on the Von Neumann appointment for March 8th to be preceded by an Executive Session and the Committee would like to have an answer by that time.

It is recommended that the Special Inquiry Section check back on this letter, that we ^{take} steps to establish the authenticity and the accuracy of our report which may necessitate [REDACTED] Since time is of the essence, it is believed this matter should be given expeditious attention.

yes & promptly
&

Wm b7C

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. Rosen *RAM*

FROM : Mr. *[REDACTED]*

SUBJECT: *OO* JOHN VON NEUMANN
SPECIAL INQUIRY

DATE: 2-24-55

Tolson *[initials]*
Boardman *[initials]*
Nichols *[initials]*
Belmont *[initials]*
Harbo *[initials]*
Mohr *[initials]*
Parsons *[initials]*
Clegg *[initials]*
Winterrowd *[initials]*
Tele. Room *[initials]*
Holloman *[initials]*
Gandy *[initials]*

INDEXED - 24

gpc This is to advise that the Bureau is in receipt of a certified true copy of a pertinent document which verifies information as reported in Bureau's investigation of Von Neumann who is being considered as a member of the Atomic Energy Commission.

Frank Cotter, staff member, Joint Committee on Atomic Energy, contacted Assistant to the Director L. B. Nichols on February 11, 1955, and said the committee is attempting to handle Von Neumann's confirmation in a discreet manner. Cotter stated that in the Bureau's investigation reference is made to a letter which was sent to Prime Minister Mackenzie King of Canada on 5/18/46, by Oswald Veblen of the Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton, New Jersey, concerning Israel Halperin, who was arrested in February, 1946, by the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) and charged with violating the Canadian Official Secrets Act. Cotter advised that the committee asked Von Neumann if he signed such a letter and he said his recollection was that the letter was sent, not to Mackenzie King, but to the president of the college where Halperin was employed. Cotter said this statement is in *[REDACTED]* with the information reported by the Bureau and the committee desired the conflict be resolved.

[REDACTED]

The Director commented "Yes and promptly" to recommendation that the Special Inquiry Section check back on this letter to establish its authenticity and accuracy.

On 2/21/55, the Bureau's Liaison Representative at Ottawa, Canada, furnished the Bureau a certified true copy of the original letter and attachment thereto verifying its authenticity and accuracy as reported in the Bureau's investigation.

RECORDED - 24

INDEXED
EX-124

7 MAR 22 1955

WPK:

cc: 1 - Mr. Nichols 2/24/55 sent *[initials]*

60 MAR 25 1955

Memo to Mr. Rosen

RECOMMENDATION: Inasmuch as there is no discrepancy between the information received [redacted] and the information reported in the Bureau's investigation, that the attached certified copy of the original letter and attachment thereto be directed to Assistant to the Director L. B. Nichols in order that he may bring this matter to the attention of the Joint Committee on Atomic Energy. It is noted that the [redacted] has no objection to this document being disseminated to interested U. S. agencies on a "need to know" basis, providing there is no danger of the document or its contents becoming public knowledge.

memo 9m6
2-25-55
LBN

R

JRM

JAN

Wm

7

12

✓

OK

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. Rosen *Rosen*

DATE: Feb. 16, 1955

FROM : Mr. Callan

SUBJECT: JOHN VON NEUMANN
SPECIAL INQUIRY

Tolson	_____
Boardman	_____
Nichols	_____
Belmont	_____
Harbo	_____
Mohr	_____
Parsons	_____
Rosen	_____
Tamm	_____
Sizoo	_____
Winterrowd	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Holloman	_____
Gandy	_____

This is to advise of a question raised by Von Neumann to members of the Joint Committee on Atomic Energy, presently holding hearings in connection with his nomination to be a member of the Atomic Energy Commission (AEC); that he does not recall signing a letter sent to Prime Minister Mackenzie King of Canada in 1946 on behalf of Israel Halperin, who was arrested in February, 1946, by the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) and charged with violating the Canadian Official Secrets Act.

b7D This information was included in the Bureau's investigation of Von Neumann which was furnished to the White House, the Attorney General and the AEC on 10/18/54.

The investigation of Von Neumann was highly favorable. In April, 1954, he testified before the Personnel Security Board of the AEC as a character witness on behalf of J. Robert Oppenheimer, whose atomic energy clearance was suspended as a result of the hearings. He testified before the Subcommittee of the Committee on Government Operations on June 15, 1954, during which he criticized the Government's security program.

Frank Cotter, staff member, Joint Committee on Atomic Energy, contacted Assistant to the Director L. B. Nichols on February 11, 1955, and said the committee is attempting to handle Von Neumann's confirmation in a discreet manner. Cotter stated that in the Bureau's investigation reference is made to a letter which was sent to Prime Minister Mackenzie King of Canada on May 18, 1946, by Oswald Veblen of the Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton, New Jersey, concerning Israel Halperin; that among the signers of the statement was John Von Neumann. Cotter advised that the committee asked Von Neumann if he signed such a letter and he

Attachments

77-64804

cc-Mr. Nichols

-Foreign Liaison Unit

WPK/lh/rcr (9)

2/16/55 sent
[initials]

77-64804-42

Memo to Mr. Rosen

b7D

said his recollection was that the letter was sent, not to Mackenzie King but to the President of the college where Halperin was employed. Cotter said this statement is in direct conflict with the information reported by the Bureau and the committee desired the conflict be resolved.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

(1)



(2) That the attached letters be transmitted to the White House, the Attorney General, and other agencies which received copies of the Bureau's summary; namely, Office of Secretary of Defense, Atomic Energy Commission, G-2, Department of the Army, and Office of Naval Intelligence.

Not sent

(3) That the attached correspondence be directed to Assistant to the Director L. B. Nichols for review prior to dissemination in the event he may desire to orally advise Frank Cotter of the above.

R *AM* *JKM* *V* *JS* *red*

cc: Mr. Holloman
Mr. Boardman
Mr. Rosen

SECRET

b7c

February 28, 1955

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL
BY COURIER SERVICE

Honorable Lewis Strauss
Chairman
Atomic Energy Commission
19th and Constitution Avenue, Northwest
Washington, D. C.

Dear Admiral:

Reference is made to my letter dated October 18, 1954, which transmitted a summary reflecting the results of an investigation by this Bureau at the request of the White House concerning John Von Neumann.

During the deliberations concerning Von Neumann's nomination as a member of the Atomic Energy Commission, Von Neumann was questioned concerning a letter sent to Prime Minister Mackenzie King of Canada on behalf of Israel Halperin as reflected on page 15 of the above-mentioned summary. He stated it was his recollection that a letter was sent, not to Mackenzie King but to the President of the college where Halperin was employed, requesting that a final judgment not be made against Halperin until all the facts were in.

For your information, there is attached a Photostat of a certified true copy of the original letter which verifies the information as it has been previously reported by this Bureau.

which furnished this document, advised that there is no objection to the document being disseminated to interested governmental agencies on a "need-to-know" basis, provided there is no danger of the document or its contents becoming public knowledge.

Tolson _____
Boardman _____
Nichols _____
Belmont _____
Harbo _____
Mohr _____
Parsons _____
Rosen _____
Tamm _____
Sizoo _____
Winterrowd _____
Tele. Room _____
Holloman _____
Gandy _____

Attachment

77-64804
WPK:pam
(9)

Sincerely yours,
J. Edgar Hoover

cc: Mr. Nichols

RECEIVED
MAR 1 1955
COMM - FBI

64804-42

Handwritten signature

SECRET

NOTE: On 2/26/55, Assistant to the Director L. B. Nichols exhibited the attached letter mentioned above to Frank Cotter, staff member, and Corbin Allardice, staff director, Joint Committee on Atomic Energy, on a "need-to-know" basis. Both were advised that we would send a copy of the letter to the Atomic Energy Commission promptly. Mr. Nichols further suggested that other appropriate agencies be advised.

SECRET

SECRET

cc: Mr. Holloman
Mr. Boardman
Mr. Rosen

b7C

February 28, 1955

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL
BY COURIER SERVICE

Honorable Sherman Adams
The Assistant to the President
The White House
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Adams:

Reference is made to my letter dated October 18, 1954, which transmitted a summary reflecting the results of an investigation conducted by this Bureau concerning John Von Neumann.

During the deliberations concerning Von Neumann's nomination as a member of the Atomic Energy Commission, Von Neumann was questioned concerning a letter sent to Prime Minister Mackenzie King of Canada on behalf of Israel Halperin as reflected on page 15 of the above-mentioned summary. He stated it was his recollection that a letter was sent, not to Mackenzie King but to the President of the college where Halperin was employed, requesting that a final judgment not be made against Halperin until all the facts were in.

For your information, there is attached a Photostat of a certified true copy of the original letter which verifies the information as it has been previously reported by this Bureau.

RECEIVED READING ROOM
MAR 1 10 09 AM
BY COURIER SVC
5 MAR 1
COMM - FBI

67D [redacted] which furnished this document, advised that there is no objection to the document being disseminated to interested governmental agencies on a "need-to-know" basis, provided there is no danger of the document or its contents becoming public knowledge.

Tolson _____
Boardman _____
Nichols _____
Belmont _____
Harbo _____
Mohr _____
Parsons _____
Rosen _____
Tamm _____
Tizoo _____
Winterrowd _____
Tele. Room _____
Holloman _____
Gandy _____

Sincerely yours,
J. Edgar Hoover
MAR 22 1955

For note: See next page.

SECRET

cc: Mr. Nichols

77-64804
WPK:pam
(9)

~~SECRET~~

NOTE : On 2/26/55, Assistant to the Director L. B. Nichols exhibited the attached letter mentioned above to Frank Cotter, staff member, and Corbin Allardice, staff director, Joint Committee on Atomic Energy, on a "need-to-know" basis. Both were advised that we would send a copy of the letter to the Atomic Energy Commission promptly. Mr. Nichols further suggested that other appropriate agencies be advised.

Tolson _____
Boardman _____
Nichols _____
Belmont _____
Harbo _____
Mohr _____
Parsons _____
Rosen _____
Tamm _____
Sizoo _____
Winterrowd _____
Tele. Room _____
Holloman _____
Gandy _____

~~SECRET~~

SECRET

cc: Mr. Holloman
The Attorney General Mr. Boardman
Mr. Rosen

February 28, 1955

Director, FBI

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

JOHN VON NEUMANN
SPECIAL INQUIRY

Reference is made to my memorandum dated October 18, 1954, which transmitted a summary reflecting the results of an investigation by this Bureau at the request of the White House concerning John Von Neumann.

During the deliberations concerning Von Neumann's nomination as a member of the Atomic Energy Commission, Von Neumann was questioned concerning a letter sent to Prime Minister Mackenzie King of Canada on behalf of Israel Halperin as reflected on page 15 of the above-mentioned summary. He stated it was his recollection that a letter was sent, not to Mackenzie King but to the President of the college where Halperin was employed, requesting that a final judgment not be made against Halperin until all the facts were in.

For your information, there is attached a Photostat of a certified true copy of the original letter which verifies the information as it has been previously reported by this Bureau.

[redacted] which furnished this document, advised that there is no objection to the document being disseminated to interested governmental agencies on a "need-to-know" basis, provided there is no danger of the document or its contents becoming public knowledge.

Attachment

cc: Mr. Nichols-DETACHED
77-64804
WPK/pam
(10)

MAILED 2
MAR 1 1955
COMM - FBI

Tolson _____
Boardman _____
Nichols _____
Belmont _____
Harbo _____
Mohr _____
Parsons _____
Rosen _____
Tamm _____
Sizoo _____
Winterrowd _____
Tele. Room _____
Holloman _____
Gandy _____

NOT RECORDED
MAR 22 1955

SECRET

MAR 25 1955

WPK

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. Rosen *RW*
 FROM : *b7C* [REDACTED]
 SUBJECT: JOHN VON NEUMANN
 SPECIAL INQUIRY

DATE: March 2, 1955

Tolson ☒
 Boardman ☒
 Nichols ☒
 Belmont ☒
 Harbo ☒
 Mohr ☒
 Parsons ☒
 Rosen ☒
 Tamm ☒
 Sizoo ☒
 Winterrowd ☒
 Tele. Room ☒
 Holloman ☒
 Gandy ☒

b7C [REDACTED]
 With reference to dissemination of supplemental information concerning John Von Neumann, a prospective member of the Atomic Energy Commission, a memorandum dated February 28, 1955, to the Attorney General did not state specifically that the information contained therein was furnished to the White House. The Director commented, "Why didn't copy to A. G. indicate that?"

On October 18, 1954, a summary memorandum concerning the results of an extensive investigation of Von Neumann was transmitted to the White House, the Attorney General and other interested agencies. The transmittal memorandum to the Attorney General stated specifically that a copy of the afore-mentioned summary was furnished to the White House. It was pointed out that the request for investigation came from the White House.

On February 28, 1955, the White House and the Attorney General were furnished Photostats of a true copy of a letter to Prime Minister Mackenzie King of Canada, which Von Neumann reportedly signed. This transmittal was merely a follow-up, containing no information in addition to that previously furnished to the White House and the Attorney General. The Bureau's memorandum to the Attorney General, dated February 28, 1955, specifically stated in the first paragraph that the request for investigation came from the White House, but did not state that the White House had been advised.

It is acknowledged that it would have been better to have advised the Attorney General specifically that the White House had been advised.

ACTION:

Care will be taken in the future to see that memoranda to the Attorney General specifically mention dissemination to other agencies.

77-64804

WPK

23 RECORDED - 93
EX-112

77-64804-46

67 MAR 28 1955

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : The Director

DATE: February 28, 1955

FROM : L. V. Boardman

SUBJECT: JOHN VON NEUMANN
ATOMIC ENERGY ACT - APPLICANT
SPECIAL INQUIRY

Tolson ☒
Boardman ☒
Nichols ☒
Belmont ☒
Mohr ☐
Parsons ☐
Rosen ☐
Tamm ☐
 Sizoo ☐
Winterrowd ☐
Tele. Room ☐
Holloman ☐
Gandy ☐

SYNOPSIS:

John Von Neumann has been nominated Atomic Energy Commission (AEC) member and confirmation is pending in Congress. Admiral Strauss, Chairman, AEC, expressed concern to Director on 2/25/55 about Von Neumann's relatives in Hungary whom Von Neumann claims to support and about Von Neumann's signature on message to Canadian Prime Minister on behalf of Israel Halperin, who was charged with violation of Canadian Official Secrets Act but later released.

Bufiles reflect Von Neumann investigated 1953 and 1954 as Atomic Energy Act - Applicant and Special Inquiry, respectively. Summary memorandum prepared under date of October 18, 1954, (attached) and disseminated to all interested agencies. Investigation reflected Von Neumann highly regarded and considered loyal by associates. Investigation reflected Von Neumann testified before AEC Personnel Security Board in 1954 as character witness for Dr. J. Robert Oppenheimer. Subsequent to preparation of summary memorandum, information received that Von Neumann testified before Congressional Subcommittee in June, 1954, at which time he stated Government Security Program should be handled judicially rather than administratively. This information also disseminated to interested agencies.

Investigation did not reflect Von Neumann had close relatives in Hungary and his immediate family members in U.S. His wife is reported to come from a prominent Hungarian family and Admiral Strauss may have confused wife's family with Von Neumann's own family.

Information is contained in summary memorandum.

Attachment
JEM:dlb-bmm
(8)
77-64804

cc - Mr. Boardman
Mr. Tolson
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Belmont

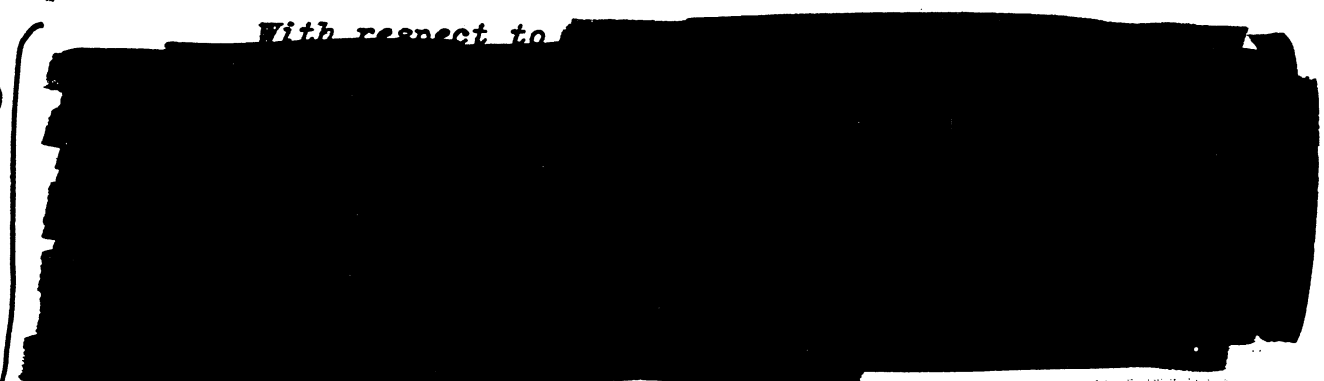
judicially rather than administratively. Photostats of Von Neumann's above testimony were afforded the same dissemination as the summary memorandum.

During the Director's discussion with Admiral Strauss, the Admiral indicated concern with respect to two matters appearing in Von Neumann's file. The first concerned Von Neumann's relations in Hungary and Admiral Strauss said Von Neumann was supporting them. The second concerned the signing of a message, addressed to Canadian Prime Minister Mackenzie King, by Von Neumann and others on behalf of Israel Halperin.

With respect to Von Neumann's relations in Hungary, our investigation determined his father is deceased. His mother and two brothers are naturalized U. S. citizens. Von Neumann's first wife is a naturalized U. S. citizen. His present wife, whom he married in Hungary in 1938 is a naturalized U. S. citizen. Investigation reflected all of the above are highly regarded and are loyal. Investigation did not reflect that Von Neumann had any close relatives in Hungary and at least six professional associates have stated that to their knowledge Von Neumann has no relatives or contacts outside the United States. One professional associate did report that Von Neumann's present wife, Klara Dan, comes from a very prominent family in Hungary.

In view of the above, it appears that Admiral Strauss may have been confused as to which relatives Von Neumann is supporting in Hungary; the relatives may be his wife's relatives rather than his own.

With respect to



Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : A. H. BELMONT

DATE: March 10, 1955

FROM : [REDACTED]

SUBJECT: JOHN VON NEUMANN
ATOMIC ENERGY ACT - APPLICANT
SPECIAL INQUIRY

Tolson _____
Boardman _____
Nichols _____
Belmont _____
Harbo _____
Mohr _____
Parsons _____
Rosen _____
Tamm _____
Trotter _____
W.C. Sullivan _____
Tele. Room _____
Holloman _____

Reference is made to the memorandum from Mr. Boardman to the Director dated February 28, 1955, concerning captioned subject. Referenced memorandum pointed out the following:

Lewis L. Strauss, Chairman, Atomic Energy Commission, expressed concern to the Director on February 25, 1955, concerning one of Von Neumann's relatives in Hungary, whom he allegedly supports, and to Von Neumann's signature on a message addressed to the Prime Minister of Canada on behalf of Israel Halperin.

Referenced memorandum further pointed out that investigation reflected Von Neumann himself had no known close relatives in Hungary but his wife may have had relatives there. Referenced memorandum recommended that Mr. Strauss be contacted by our Liaison Representative for further information, after which a determination would be made as to whether or not additional investigation should be conducted.

Reference is also made to the memorandum from Belmont to Boardman dated March 1, 1955, informing that Mr. Strauss had been contacted on February 28, 1955. At that time, Strauss informed that Von Neumann told him that he (Von Neumann) contributed to the support of his wife's family, who are financially destitute and who now reside in Austria rather than Hungary. Mr. Strauss had no additional information.

RECOMMENDATION:

In view of the fact that Mr. Strauss had no additional facts other than the information set forth above, it is recommended that no additional inquiries be conducted at this time with respect to Von Neumann's wife's family in Austria.

77-64804

Tickler: Mr. Boardman, Belmont [REDACTED]

JEM:baw
(6)

77-64804-51

24 1955

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. Tolson

FROM : L. B. Nichols

SUBJECT: JOHN VON NEUMANN
SPECIAL INQUIRY

DATE: Feb. 26, 1955

Tolson _____
Boardman _____
Nichols _____
Belmont _____
Harbo _____
Mohr _____
Parsons _____
Rosen _____
Tamm _____
Trotter _____
Winterrowd _____
Tele. Room _____
Holloman _____

G.I.R. -3

On February 11, 1955, Frank Cotter, former Special Agent and now a member of the staff of the Joint Committee on Atomic Energy, called at my office to advise that the staff had reviewed the reports on Von Neumann in the Atomic Energy Commission files; that among the reports was a letter, attributed to a confidential source, reflecting that a letter had been sent to Prime Minister MacKenzie King at Ottawa, Canada, by Oswald Veblen of the Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton, New Jersey, with reference to Israel Halperin, and among the signers was John Von Neumann.

Cotter stated that members of the Committee had interviewed Von Neumann. Von Neumann recalled that a letter had been sent but stated that the letter was not sent to MacKenzie King but to the President of the College where Halperin was employed requesting that final judgment not be made against Halperin until all the facts were in. Von Neumann further asserted he was not approached by Veblen but by Professor Tucker. The Committee wanted verification.

Since this information came from the [REDACTED], a request was made to our representative, and under date of February 21, 1955, [REDACTED], in a memorandum to Special Agent [REDACTED], transmitted a photostat of a letter from Oswald Veblen dated May 18, 1946, to MacKenzie King, transmitting a statement drawn up and signed by academic colleagues and friends of Israel Halperin.

[REDACTED]

cc: Mr. Boardman
Mr. Rosen

LBN:arm

(4)

50 MAR 28 1955

INDEXED - 87

6
WPK

Memorandum to Mr. Tolson from L. B. Nichols
RE: JOHN VON NEUMANN
SPECIAL INQUIRY

I, accordingly, advised Frank Cotter of the Joint Committee this morning that we now had the letter, but that a restriction had been imposed upon us that the contents could be conveyed only on a need-to-know basis, providing there is no danger of the document or its contents becoming public knowledge.

Cotter stated he would come down to the Bureau either Saturday afternoon or early Monday morning and then he could advise the staff he had seen the document and verified the contents.

In the meantime, it is suggested copies of this report now be disseminated to the Atomic Energy Commission and other appropriate agencies which dissemination is deemed necessary to make it crystal clear that the information in the report was true and correct in the first instance.

yes & promptly

ADDENDUM: LBN:arm 2-26-55. Frank Cotter and Corbin Allardice, Staff Director, called at the Bureau on the afternoon of February 26, 1955. After stipulating that the information could be furnished them only on a need-to-know basis with the assurance that there would be no outside publication, to which they agreed, I showed Allardice and Cotter a copy of the Veblen letter to MacKenzie King and that statement headed To Whom It May Concern, carrying Von Neumann's signature. They both expressed appreciation and both were of the opinion that the statement varied from Von Neumann's recollection, and both were of the opinion that Von Neumann would have to be asked about the letter. I told them that we, of course, could not give them a copy of the letter; that we would send a copy to the Atomic Energy Commission promptly. They then stated they would take the matter up from that point. Both Allardice and Cotter told me that Von Neumann had informed them that this letter had previously been brought up in a Navy security case in connection with a contact with [REDACTED], one of the signers of the letter and that the matter had then been resolved and [REDACTED] was given a clearance.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

April 23, 1956

JOHN VON NEUMANN *Summary*
Born: December 28, 1903
Budapest, Hungary

b7C
#296,598
Classified by *SP1*
Declassify on: OADR 6/16/98

John Von Neumann

In response to your request, please be advised that an applicant-type investigation concerning the subject of your inquiry was conducted by this Bureau in October, 1954, at the request of the White House, and the results were furnished the White House on October 18, 1954. The information furnished to the White House also contains results of applicant-type investigations concerning the subject of your inquiry conducted by this Bureau in 1947 and 1953. At the request of the White House you are referred to the Office of the Honorable Sherman Adams should you desire the detailed results of these investigations.

(77-64804)

For your additional information, please be advised that the October 19, 1954, issue of the Washington "Evening Star" contained an article which reflected that Von Neumann testified before the House Subcommittee of the Committee on Government Operations in June, 1954. The article further revealed that testimony was released to the public on October 19, 1954, and it indicated that Von Neumann criticized the Government's security program.

The foregoing information is furnished to you [redacted] and is not to be construed as a clearance or a nonclearance of the individual involved. This information is furnished for your use and should not be disseminated outside of your agency.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE

RECORDED - 71

INDEXED - 71

EX-108

Req rec'd: 4/10/56

Tolson _____
Boardman _____
Nichols _____
Belmont _____
Harbo _____
Mohr _____
Parsons _____
Rosen _____
Tamm _____
 Sizoo _____
Winterrowd _____
Tele. Room _____
Holloman _____
Gandy _____

(see note on page 2)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

*John Neumann
is deceased per
check of A.S.C.
by 12/3/54. f.*

FOI/PA # 296,598
APPEAL #
CIVIL ACT. #
E.O. # 12356
DATE 6/15/90 INIT

b-2

Note: Request received from White House 10/1/54 by letter dated 9/30/54 to investigate Von Neumann as a candidate for the AEC. The Joint Congressional Committee on Atomic Energy unanimously approved his nomination to the AEC on March 8, 1955. Von Neumann's name was listed in an address book of Israel Halperin who was indicated in the 1948 Canadian spy trials. Von Neumann furnished information that his association with Halperin was that of professor-student. Von Neumann was elected to membership in the German Academy of Science at an election held in July, 1950, in the Soviet sector of Berlin, Germany. The German Academy of Science has been described as being communist dominated.

Summaries of Von Neumann's investigation were also furnished to the AEC, Office of Secretary of Defense, G-2 and ONI on October 21, 1954, since Von Neumann is a consultant to these agencies.

Memorandum [redacted] b7c
to Rosen enclosing
summary dated 10/18/54
indicating Von Neumann
sent a letter to the president
of the academy declining to
accept membership therein.
12/3/54
#

PERSONNEL SECURITY QUESTIONNAIRE

INSTRUCTIONS - All sections must be completed - Write none when applicable - Type or print all answers. If space not adequate for complete answers, attach a supplemental sheet to this form.

1. NAME (Last, First, Middle) Von Neumann, John		5. DESCRIPTION (Check which) ☒ MALE ☐ FEMALE				
2. OTHER NAMES (Include maiden name, if married woman) None		RACE	HEIGHT	WEIGHT	COLOR EYES	COLOR HAIR
3. NORMAL HOME ADDRESS OR PRINCIPAL RESIDENCE FOR PAST 15 YEARS 26 Westcott Road, Princeton, N.J.		White	5'8"	180	Brown	Brown
4. ALL OTHER PERMANENT ADDRESSES FOR PAST 15 YEARS. (Apt. or R.F.D. No., Street, City, State, and dates there) All in Princeton, New Jersey: 1931-1932 Kingston Road 1932-1933 6 Boudinot St. 1933-1935 162 Library Place 1935-1936 Cleveland Lane and Elm Rd. 1936-1937 Library Place and Stockton St. 1937-1938 10 Bayard Lane 1938-1939 85 Stockton St. 1939-date 26 Westcott Rd.		6. (Check which) ☐ SINGLE ☐ DIVORCED ☒ MARRIED ☐ WIDOW(ER)		7. BIRTH DATE DAY MONTH YEAR 08 12 1903		
		8. BIRTHPLACE (City, County, State or Country) Budapest, Hungary				
		9. CITIZENSHIP U.S.A. (Naturalized) IF NATURALIZED: DATE Jan. 8, 1937 CERTIFICATE NUMBER 4196342 PLACE Trenton, New Jersey IF ALIEN: PORT OF ENTRY St. DATE ALIEN REGISTRATION NUMBER				
		10. DRAFT CLASSIFICATION BOARD NO. AND ADDRESS No. 1, Princeton, N.J.				
		11. SOCIAL SECURITY NO.				
		12. MILITARY SERVICE SERIAL NUMBER None BRANCH None FROM None TO (Yr.) None LEGAL RESIDENCE WHEN DISCHARGED None 11/16 - 1914 I B I				
13. EDUCATION (All schools above elementary)						
NAME OF SCHOOL		ADDRESS		FROM	TO (Yr.)	DEGREES
Univ. of Budapest		Budapest, Hungary		1925	1926	Ph.D.
Federal Inst. of Polytechnics		Zurich, Switzerland		1923	1925	Engineer of Chem.
Univ. of Berlin		Berlin, Germany		1921	1923	
14. EMPLOYMENT (List all employment and dates)						
DATE	TYPE OF WORK	NAME OF EMPLOYER (COMPANY OR ORGANIZATION)		ADDRESS (where employed)		
1933	Research Inst.	Institute for Advanced Study		Princeton, N.J.		
1941	Consultant	U.S. War Dept.		Aberdeen, Md.		
1942	Consultant	U.S. Navy Dept.		Washington, D.C.		
1941	Member	M.D.R.C. Division 8				
1944	Member	M.D.R.C. Division 2				
1943	Consultant	University of California		Los Alamos, N. Mex.		

Masons Club
 Cosmos Club
 Officers Club

Princeton, N.J. (Social)
 Washington, D.C. (Social)
 Aberdeen, Md. (Social)

1934 to date
 1942 to date
 1943 to date

Various scientific societies, including the National Academy of Sciences, Washington, D.C., and the American Philosophical Society, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

17.

RELATIVES (parents, spouse, children, brothers and sisters, living or dead)

RELATION	NAME IN FULL	ADDRESS	COUNTRY OF BIRTH	PRESENT CITIZENSHIP
Father	Max Von Neumann	Deceased	Hungary	Hungarian
Mother	Margaret Von Neumann	1719 Spruce St. Phila. Pa.	Hungary	Hungarian
Spouse	Klara D. Von Neumann	25 Westcott Rd. Princeton, N.J.	Hungary	U.S.A.
Child	Marina Von Neumann	"	U.S.A.	U.S.A.
Brothers	Michael Von Neumann	1719 Spruce St. Phila. Pa.	Hungary	Hungarian
	Nicholas A. Von Neumann	U. of Illinois (U.S. Army)	Hungary	U.S.A.

51 MAY 12 1947

14. EMPLOYMENT (Cont'd.)

DATE	TYPE OF WORK	NAME OF EMPLOYER (COMPANY OR ORGANIZATION)	ADDRESS (where employed)
		RECORDED ATOMIC ENERGY SECTION MAR 11 9 25 AM '47 F.B.I. U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE	

15:

FOREIGN COUNTRIES VISITED (Since 1930) (Exclusive of military service)

COUNTRY	DATE LEFT U.S.A.	DATE RET'D U.S.A.	PURPOSE
Hungary, Germany	1930	1931	Vacation trips
Italy, France	1931	1931	
England	1932	1932	
	1933	1933	
	1934	1934	
	1935	1935	
	1936	1936	Scientific lectures in Paris (1936)
	1937	1937	and Cambridge (1937)
England	1938	1938	Family Business
Bermuda	1943	1943	Government business (Navy Dept.)
	1947	1947	Vacation Trip

18. REFERENCES (Name three persons, not relatives or employers, who are well acquainted with you)		
NAME	ADDRESS	YEARS KNOWN
O. Veblen X	57 Battle Rd. Princeton, N.J.	15
L. E. Simon X	Aberdeen Proving Ground Aberdeen, Md.	5
K. T. Compton X	M.I.T. Cambridge, Mass.	12

APR 10 4 19 PM '47

19. ARRESTS (Include all arrests and fines other than minor traffic violations)			
CHARGE	DATE	PLACE WHERE ARRESTED	DISPOSITION
None			

The undersigned certifies that the Personnel Department of the University of California, Contract W-7405-eng-36, has in its possession an application signed by the applicant and containing all information required herein.

Margaret E. Miller
Authorized Representative, Personnel Dept

CERTIFICATION

I CERTIFY THAT THE INFORMATION CONTAINED ABOVE IS CORRECT AND COMPLETE TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE AND BELIEF. I UNDERSTAND THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES WILL INVESTIGATE THE INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN, AND THAT ANY FALSE STATEMENT IS SUFFICIENT CAUSE FOR REJECTION OF THE APPLICATION OR DISMISSAL AFTER APPOINTMENT.

DATE

USUAL SIGNATURE OR MARK OF EMPLOYEE (Sign Original Only)

TO BE FILLED OUT BY AGENCY OR FIRM EMPLOYING

AGENCY OR FIRM TO EMPLOY APPLICANT	ADDRESS
University of California, Contractor to AEC	P.O. Box 1663, Santa Fe, N. Mex.
BRIEF JOB DESCRIPTION (Job Title, Duties and Location - Description should not reveal classified information)	WILL APPLICANT HAVE ACCESS TO RESTRICTED DATA?
Consultant for Group A 10 (Health)	☐ YES ☒ NO
Class I	(Check the one block applicable)
	☐ FINGERPRINT CARD ATTACHED
	☐ T - 1 ATTACHED (RESULTS OF FBI FINGERPRINT FILE CHECK)
	☐ FBI IDENTIFICATION NUMBER
	DO NOT COMPLETE SPACE BELOW
	REFERRED TO F.B.I.
	RECEIVED FROM F.B.I.
Margaret E. Miller Authorized Representative, Personnel Dept SIGNATURE OF APPROVING AUTHORITY OF EMPLOYING AGENCY CERTIFYING AUTHORITY OF EMPLOYMENT	APR 12 12 39 PM '47 U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE FILES IN INCH 10 FORM 10-1

March 24, 1947

AIR MAIL
SPECIAL DELIVERY

SAC, ~~Denver~~

Re: ~~John Von Neumann - 1~~
ATOMIC ENERGY ACT OF 1946 - APPLICANT
EMPLOYEE

Dear Sir:

6. You are instructed to conduct an immediate, thorough, discreet investigation concerning the character, associations, and loyalty of the above-named individual in accordance with the provisions of the Atomic Energy Act of 1946. The original and four copies of the report are to be transmitted to the Bureau by special delivery, and by air mail unless ordinary mail is equally speedy, so as to reach the Bureau not later than **April 10, 1947.**

Present address: 28 Westcott Road, Princeton, New Jersey
 Birthdate and birthplace: December 23, 1903, Budapest, Hungary
 Position involved: Consultant, University of California, P.O. Box 1663, Santa Fe, N.M.
 Record from Manhattan Engineer District or Atomic Energy Commission: None () Attached ()

Record from Identification Division:
Record from Bureau files:

A review of the MID file reflects that a previous investigation of this applicant was conducted in 1943 by the MID. This investigation revealed that the applicant in 1942 engaged in considerable cable traffic with individuals in Switzerland. This cable traffic was at first considered to be suspicious but later was determined to be harmless in nature. During this investigation the following associates of the applicant at Princeton University were interviewed with favorable results:

E. C. Abbot, Assistant Dean of Faculty, Princeton University
L. P. Eisenhart, Head of Mathematics Department, Princeton University
F. Kisco, Head of the Department of Civil Engineering, Princeton University
Frank Aydelotte, Director of the Institute of Advanced Study, Princeton, New Jersey
Professor Harston Kurose, School of Mathematics, Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton, N.J.

Very truly yours,

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
51 December 27

FX-38

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 9
MAR 24 1947 P.M.
WASHINGTON FIELD
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

RECORDED

EX - 88

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Egan _____
Mr. Gurnea _____
Mr. Harbo _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. Pennington _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Mr. Nease _____

Re: John V. ... - 3
ATOMIC ENERGY ACT - APPLICANT

H. D. Smythe, Head of Physics Department, Princeton University
H. P. Roberts, Head of Mathematics Department, Princeton University

WASHINGTON FIELD DIVISION: Applicant was a member of the W.D.R.C., Division 1 in 1941 and Division 2 in 1944; applicant was consultant for the Navy Department in 1942 and consultant for the War Department in 1941 at Aberdeen, Maryland.

EL PASO FIELD DIVISION: Applicant employed as consultant, University of California Los Alamos, N.M. in 1943.

BOSTON FIELD DIVISION: Applicant listed as a reference L. T. Compton, M.I.T., Cambridge, Massachusetts.

ENCLOSURE

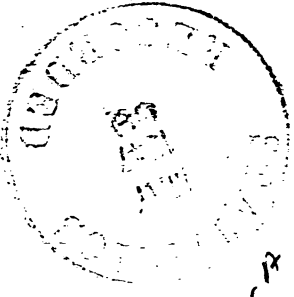
116-1914-2

Olson
A. Tamm
Egg
Evin
Id
Hols
In
Y
On
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Tamm

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION ~~SECRET~~

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT BUREAU

FILE NO. 116-213

REPORT MADE AT BALTIMORE, MARYLAND	DATE WHEN MADE 4-8-47	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 3-31; 4-5-47	REPORT MADE BY [REDACTED] b7C dep
TITLE JOHN VON NEUMANN - 3 Classified by <i>SPL/AGHAM</i> Declassify on: <i>OADR 4-10-89</i> <i>#296598</i>			CHARACTER OF CASE ATOMIC ENERGY ACT - APPLICANT
SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:  Professor JOHN VON NEUMANN was appointed as a consultant for the Ballistics Laboratory, Aberdeen Proving Ground, Aberdeen, Md., on August 18, 1942. Applicant has been employed intermittently at Aberdeen from that date to present. By his associates, applicant is regarded to be loyal and patriotic, having fine personal habits and good character. Credit and criminal records negative. (S) - RUC - AGENCY <i>REC'D 12-2-47</i> <i>REP'T FORM 1-4-47</i> <i>BY [REDACTED]</i> <i>1 photo - [REDACTED] 9/12/54</i> <i>cc photo 475 [REDACTED] 4/11/54</i> <i>photo 7-15-52</i> <i>SELF - [REDACTED]</i>			
REFERENCE: Bureau file 116-1914. Bureau letter to Newark Field Division dated March 24, 1947.			
DETAILS: <i>cc [REDACTED] 3/17/53</i> <i>1 cc Army 4-8-47</i> <i>me</i> Capt. B. ROBBINS, Military Intelligence Office, Aberdeen Proving Ground, Aberdeen, Md., furnished the employment record of JOHN VON NEUMANN which disclosed his appointment to Aberdeen Proving Ground was made under Section 8 of the Military Appropriations Act for services when required. Professor VON NEUMANN was first notified of his appointment on Aug. 3, 1942. <i>cc photo 475 [REDACTED] 4/11/54</i> <i>photo 7-15-52</i> <i>SELF - [REDACTED]</i> <i>b7C</i>			
APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>Fred Hallford</i>		SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES 116-1914-5 F B I 15 MAY 3 1947	
COPIES OF THIS REPORT ⑤ Bureau (SPECIAL DELIVERY) 2 Baltimore		RECORDED EX-37	
<i>cc 6 DEC 57 47 GPH</i>		SECRET SECRET	

~~SECRET~~

Baltimore File #116-213

His rate of pay was \$25 per diem ungraded, Ordnance Department at Large, Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland. At present, Professor VON NEUMANN is authorized to work at Aberdeen Proving Ground not exceeding 30 days per year. When first appointed, Professor VON NEUMANN was authorized to work not exceeding 180 days per year intermittently or 90 days per year continuously. Approval for Professor VON NEUMANN's employment at Aberdeen Proving Ground has been granted each fiscal year and his present appointment expires June 30, 1947.

Professor VON NEUMANN's file indicates that under date of July 13, 1943 his designation was changed from consultant to technical expert.

On July 9, 1943, a room was set aside for Professor VON NEUMANN at the Officers' Club, Annex #2, Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md.

Professor VON NEUMANN's file indicates that on August 16, 1946, he signed a no strike pledge for the War Department at the Aberdeen Proving Ground.

Applicant's personnel file contains no derogatory information, and Captain ROBBINS advised that no complaint of any nature whatever had been received concerning the applicant.

Mr. H. R. FALPAUGH, Security Office, Ballistics Laboratory, Aberdeen Proving Ground, advised that he has known the applicant slightly during the past five years inasmuch as Professor VON NEUMANN was working almost entirely in the Ballistics Laboratory. Mr. FALPAUGH advised that he can furnish no derogatory information of any kind regarding the applicant and states that so far as he knows, the applicant is highly regarded at the Ballistics Laboratory and has displayed no anti-American attitudes of any kind.

Dr. THEODORE STERN, Chief of the Terminal Ballistics Section, Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md., advised that he has known Professor VON NEUMANN for 15 years both on a social and on a business basis. Dr. STERN advised that he considered Professor VON NEUMANN to be one of the outstanding mathematicians and physicists of the world. Dr. STERN stated that he could definitely assert that the applicant is anti-Nazi and has never been known to exhibit any anti-American or pro-Communist views. Dr. STERN advised that Professor VON NEUMANN is a man of excellent personal habits, good character, and fine morals. According to Dr. STERN, although Professor VON NEUMANN occasionally will take a drink, he has never seen the applicant under the influence of liquor. Dr. STERN also advised that Professor

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

VON NEUMANN is regarded very highly by the scientific circles in which he travels. Dr. STERN advised that he would have no hesitation in recommending the applicant to any job in the United States Government requiring the confidential handling of restricted data.

Mr. L. S. DIEDERICH, Associate Director, Ballistics Laboratory, advised that he has known Professor VON NEUMANN for 4 years. In connection with the applicant's employment at Aberdeen Proving Ground, DIEDERICH advised that the applicant has been closely associated in the designing and operating of computing devices in the Ballistics field and stated that during that time Professor VON NEUMANN has made no anti-American remarks of any kind. DIEDERICH regards the applicant to be a loyal and patriotic American citizen and a man of good character and fine morals. According to DIEDERICH, while Professor VON NEUMANN was working at the Aberdeen Proving Ground he lived at the Officers' Club Annex which is set aside for individuals of scientific grade at Aberdeen Proving Ground. Mr. DIEDERICH advised that he believes the applicant is an associate member of the officers club, and has an excellent reputation, and has never been censured for any unbecoming activities.

Dr. R. H. KENT, Associate Director, Ballistics Laboratory, advised that he has known Professor VON NEUMANN as a scientist for 4 years, and that he regards him to be a patriotic and loyal American citizen as well as a man of excellent personal habits, good character, and fine morals.

COLONEL LEONARD E. SIMON, Director of the Ballistics Laboratory, Aberdeen Proving Ground, Aberdeen, Md., advised that he has known Professor VON NEUMANN since 1939 and regards him to be "the world's greatest living mathematician." Colonel SIMON advised that since 1942 Professor VON NEUMANN has been employed intermittently by the Ballistics Laboratory at Aberdeen Proving Ground in the capacity of consultant and technical expert. Colonel SIMON stated that the applicant's work has been chiefly that of designing computing instruments and setting up experiments in the field of Ballistics. Colonel SIMON advised that Professor VON NEUMANN has often served without pay at Aberdeen Proving Ground and that he is regarded by his scientific associates as being a man of splendid personal habits, good reputation, and fine character. Colonel SIMON advised that he has no reason to question the loyalty and patriotism of the applicant to the American government. According to Colonel SIMON,

~~SECRET~~

5577
X

Baltimore File #116-213

while Professor VON NEUMANN has been at Aberdeen Proving Ground, he lives at the Officers' Club on the Post, and he is an associate member of that club. Colonel SIMON explained that this is a designation given to employees of a scientific rank at Aberdeen Proving Ground. Colonel SIMON advised that the applicant has already handled restricted data in connection with his work at Aberdeen and further advised that he would have no hesitation in trusting Professor VON NEUMANN with top secret information. Colonel SIMON said that he would have no hesitation in recommending the applicant for any position in the United States Government which requires confidential handling of secret or restricted information.

Dr. E. H. FRAZER, Chief, Internal Ballistics Division, Aberdeen Proving Ground, advised that he has known Professor VON NEUMANN for 4 years both as an associate member of the Aberdeen Proving Ground Officers' Club and as a scientist. Dr. FRAZER advised that Professor VON NEUMANN is regarded as a brilliant mathematician and a man of unqualified loyalty and patriotism toward the United States Government as well as having good personal habits and good moral character.

The records of the Retail Merchants Credit Bureau, Baltimore, Md., were negative concerning the applicant.

Chief BENJAMIN RAY, Aberdeen, Md., searched his records against the name of the applicant with negative results.

REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN

~~SECRET~~

NK 116-119

REFERENCE: Bureau file 116-1914.
Bureau letter dated March 24, 1947.

DETAILS: AT PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY

Employment

The records of the Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton, New Jersey, reflected that the applicant came to Princeton University in 1930 as a professor of Mathematics and that he was made a member of the faculty at the Institute for Advanced Study in 1933. He is presently engaged in research work at the Institute in Mathematics and Physics.

Reference, Acquaintances and Associates

Dr. FRANK AYDELOTTE, Dean of the Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton, New Jersey, advised that he has known the applicant for a period of about 15 years and that applicant had been previously employed as an instructor in the University of Berlin and the University of Zurich, Switzerland, prior to coming to Princeton, New Jersey. According to Dr. AYDELOTTE, applicant came to Princeton in 1930 as a professor of Mathematics at the University and that he was made a member of the faculty at the Institute for Advanced Study in the year 1933.

Dr. AYDELOTTE characterized applicant as being one of the most brilliant mathematicians in the world today, placing him in the category of ALBERT EINSTEIN. According to Dr. AYDELOTTE, applicant is an expert on shock waves and that he has done considerable research work in Mathematics and Physics. He also mentioned that the applicant was closely associated during the war in the atomic bomb project and that he had spent considerable time on this project at Oak Ridge, Tennessee and Los Alamos, New Mexico. Dr. AYDELOTTE stated that the applicant was primarily a scientist and that he had never evidenced any great interest in politics or social problems.

Dr. AYDELOTTE went on to say that he held the applicant and his family in high regard and that he considered the applicant as being trustworthy, honest, one who could undoubtedly keep confidence and that he is of fine moral character and reputation and that there was absolutely no question in his mind concerning the applicant's loyalty. He said that he could vouch for applicant in every possible respect.

NK 116-119

Dr. AYDELOTTE further advised that the applicant was divorced from his first wife, MANETTE, in 1937 and that he married his present wife, KLARA VON NEUMANN in Hungary in 1938. Dr. AYDELOTTE mentioned that applicant's first wife was definitely not applicant's type and that he believed she was presently residing somewhere in New York City operating a dress shop. Dr. AYDELOTTE described applicant's present wife, KLARA, as a loyal person who comes from a very prominent family in Hungary. Dr. AYDELOTTE concluded by stating that he could furnish absolutely no derogatory information whatsoever concerning the applicant and his wife and that he would recommend applicant unqualifiedly.

Dr. OSWALD VEBLEN, Mathematics Department, Institute for Advanced Study, and a reference of applicant, stated that he has known the applicant ever since the applicant has been in this country. Dr. VEBLEN went on to say that he himself was partly responsible for the applicant coming to the United States and that the applicant first became known to him through his reputation and his reading about him as a mathematician and physicist in Europe. Dr. VEBLEN recalled that he might have even met applicant at the boat in New York when he first entered the United States. Dr. VEBLEN mentioned that he was a witness for the applicant when he filed petition for naturalization in Trenton, New Jersey quite sometime ago. Dr. VEBLEN was very high in his praise for applicant and he described applicant as being a great genius in mathematical physics and that he ranked with EINSTEIN in ability and intelligence.

Dr. VEBLEN considered applicant honest, trustworthy, and of fine moral character and reputation and one who could undoubtedly keep confidence. Dr. VEBLEN said that there was absolutely no question in his mind about applicant's loyalty to the United States and that he would have no hesitation in recommending applicant.

Dr. H. H. TAYLOR, Dean of the Graduate School and Head of the Chemistry Department, Princeton University, advised that the applicant was first associated with the Mathematics Department at the University in 1930 and that he transferred to the Institute for Advanced Study at Princeton approximately three years later. Dr. TAYLOR was very high in his praise for applicant and mentioned that it was absolutely ridiculous for any person to doubt the loyalty, patriotism and integrity of applicant. Dr. TAYLOR

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characterized applicant as being the greatest genius of mathematical physics in this country today.

Dr. L. P. EISENKART, Mathematics Department, Princeton University, was interviewed and he stated that he has known the applicant for quite some time. He mentioned that the applicant was born in Hungary; that he served as a professor at the University of Berlin, Germany and as a professor at the University of Zurich, Switzerland before coming to the United States. Dr. EISENKART said that the applicant had worked on different phases of the atomic bomb during the war and that there was absolutely no question in his mind concerning applicant's loyalty and his ability to keep confidence.

Dr. EISENKART went on to say that applicant, from his experience with him, was completely trustworthy and that he knew of no derogatory information about him. Dr. EISENKART stated that the applicant was primarily interested in Mathematics and Physics and that to his knowledge he had never heard the applicant evidence any interest in politics or social problems.

Dr. ALBERT EINSTEIN, Professor Emeritus of the Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton, advised that he knew applicant, having become closely associated with him at the Institute. Dr. EINSTEIN spoke very highly of applicant and he considered the applicant as a person who could be thoroughly trusted with secretive information and one who was undoubtedly loyal and a patriotic American citizen.

Dr. M. H. NICHOLS, Department of Physics, Palmer Laboratories, Princeton, New Jersey, advised that he had been acquainted with applicant since 1940. He stated that he had worked with the applicant on a project which was not connected with Princeton. He stated that he classed applicant as one of the world's best mathematicians and advised that he considered him a loyal American. He stated that he had no knowledge of the applicant's political beliefs.

Dr. HENRY D. SMYTHE, Department of Physics, Palmer Physical Laboratory, Princeton, New Jersey, was interviewed and stated that he had known the applicant approximately 15 years and that he has known him very well for a period of seven or eight years. Dr. SMYTHE stated that he knew applicant's wife very well also and he classed her as the most passionately loyal American that he knew. Dr. SMYTHE further stated that he considered the applicant's loyalty of such a nature that no foreign power would even

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consider contacting him for information. He stated that he knew the applicant lived up to the letter his loyalty with respect to his confidential work and did not even talk to him, Dr. SMYTHE, on the Manhattan Engineering Project which was closely associated until it was approved by the War Department.

Dr. SMYTHE stated that he did not consider the applicant a likely prospect for any foreign government to contact and that he further did not consider the applicant a likely contact for any of the American Communists.

Neighborhood

Mrs. G. P. TSCHBOTARIOFF, 21 Westcott Road, who resides directly across the street from the applicant, advised that she has known the applicant and his wife and small child slightly for a period of four to five years. She said that applicant made a very good neighbor; that to her knowledge he has never caused any trouble whatsoever in the neighborhood and that from what she knew of him he was of fine moral character and reputation and a reliable, trustworthy person. She had no reason to doubt applicant's loyalty or patriotism to the United States.

Mrs. KATE MORGAN, 10 Westcott Road, Princeton, advised that she has known the applicant and his family for a period of two or three years. She mentioned that she very seldom saw the family but her associations with applicant and his family have been of the best and she could furnish no derogatory information concerning them.

Mrs. JOHN C. DIEHENN of 34 Westcott Road, Princeton, advised that she has known the applicant and his wife for a period of four years and mentioned that they made very good neighbors; kept to themselves most of the time and that she had no reason to doubt their integrity and loyalty.

Reference letter from the Bureau sets out other previous residences of applicant in Princeton, New Jersey. However, investigation at and in the neighborhood of these residences disclosed that no one was sufficiently familiar with applicant or his family to furnish information concerning them.

Reference letter from the Bureau also sets out that applicant has been a member of the Nassau Club, Princeton University since 1934. Miss HOUSTON SCOTT, Secretary to the Dean of the Graduate School, Princeton University, stated that the Nassau Club in Princeton is a social club whose members consist of various professors at the University and various businessmen in the town of Princeton. She stated that this club meets once a week

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NK 116-119

in Princeton and that usually a prominent speaker talks to its members.

Background

Reference Bureau letter sets out that a review of the Manhattan Engineering District file reflects that a previous investigation of this applicant was conducted in 1943 by the Military Intelligence Division. This investigation revealed that the applicant in 1942 engaged in considerable cable traffic with individuals in Switzerland. This cable traffic was at first considered to be suspicious but later was determined to be harmless in nature. During this investigation the following associates of the applicant at Princeton University were interviewed with favorable results.

R. C. ALBION, Assistant Dean of Faculty, Princeton University

L. P. EISENKART, Head of the Mathematics Department, Princeton University

P. KISSANE, Head of the Department of Civil Engineering, Princeton University

FRANK AYDELOTTE, Director of the Institute of Advanced Study, Princeton University

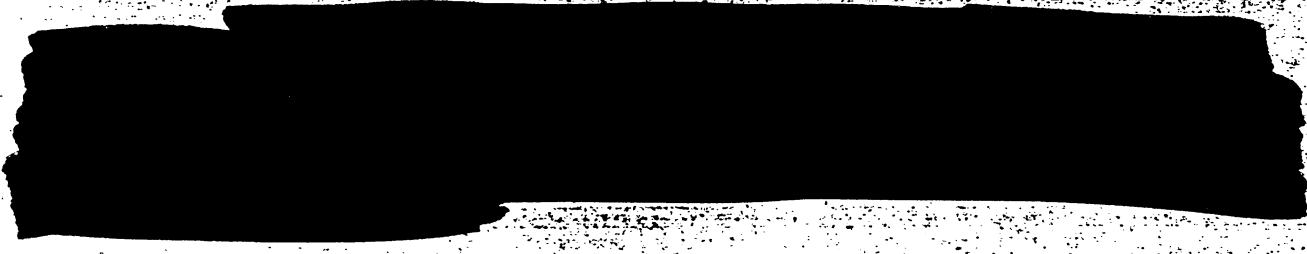
Professor MARSTON MORSE, School of Mathematics, Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton, New Jersey

H. D. SMYTHE, Head of the Physics Department, Princeton University

H. P. ROBERTS, Head of the Mathematics Department, Princeton University

A review of the indices of this office reflects the following concerning the applicant.

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Miss MARTHA STONE, Deputy Clerk, U. S. District Court Clerk's Office, Trenton, New Jersey, produced a declaration of intention number 859 which was filed by applicant then residing at Princeton, New Jersey. This declaration of intention reflected that applicant was of Hungarian nationality, the Magyar race. He was born in Budapest, Hungary on December 28, 1903 and was married to MANETTE VON NEUMANN on January 1, 1930 at Budapest, Hungary. It was revealed that MANETTE was born at Budapest, Hungary on September 7, 1909 and that she entered the United States At New York City on January 28, 1930.

It is to be noted that applicant is presently divorced from MANETTE and that he is now married to KLARA D. VON NEUMANN.

The records also reflected that the last foreign address of applicant was Berlin, Germany and that he immigrated to the U. S. from Bremen, Germany on the SS BREMEN on January 28, 1930.

Petition for Naturalization number 1778 was filed by applicant then residing at 20 Bayard Lane, Princeton, New Jersey. He listed his wife as MANETTE and one child, MARINA, born March 6, 1935 in New York City. Information was also furnished that the child lived with him. References on this petition were H. P. ROBERTSON of 180 Prospect Avenue, Princeton, New Jersey and Professor OSWALD VERLEN of 58 Battle Road, Princeton, New Jersey. Certificate of Naturalization number 4196342 was issued to applicant on January 8, 1937.

The records of Local Draft Board 1, Princeton, New Jersey, reflected that the applicant furnished information that he was employed at the Institute for Advanced Study at Princeton. He also furnished information to the effect that he was also employed as a member of the Scientific Advisory Committee of the U. S. Department of War. His family was listed as himself, KLARA VON NEUMANN, his wife, age 30, and his child MARINA VON NEUMANN, age 7. It was indicated that MARINA, his child, spent part of her time with applicant and part of her time with his first wife.

There is a letter on file at the Draft Board from the Bureau of Ordnance in the Department of Navy, Washington, D. C. dated September 14, 1942 advising that applicant was engaged in primary offensive and defensive marine warfare and in the protection of ships and that his work was confidential. He entered on duty with this Bureau of the Navy on July 15, 1942 and was paid \$25 a day for his work as a contract physicist and mathematician. It was indicated that the applicant was one of the best qualified mathematical physicists in the country.

In a report dated October 9, 1945 at the Trenton Credit Association, Trenton, New Jersey it was revealed that applicant derives an income of approximately \$20,000 annually in his position; that he owns property at his present address, 26 Westcott Road, Princeton, New Jersey, valued at approximately \$30,000. There was a mortgage on this home dated May 6, 1939 in the amount of \$26,528 and that the mortgagee was the Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton. The records further reflected that applicant maintained a very satisfactory account with the Institute and that his credit rating in Princeton and vicinity is satisfactory.

It was revealed through the records of the Trenton Credit Association that the applicant's first wife, Mrs. MANETTE VON NEUMANN, filed suit for divorce against the applicant on November 3, 1937 charging cruelty.

The following information was on file at the U. S. District Court, Clerk's Office, Trenton, New Jersey for applicant's present wife, KLARA VON NEUMANN. In Certificate of Arrival number 3225742 it was indicated that she arrived in New York City on December 15, 1938 on the SS QUEEN MARY. Petition for Naturalization number 5444 was filed under the name of KLARA VON NEUMANN, 26 Westcott Road, Princeton in the District Court of the U. S. at Trenton, New Jersey. Occupation was listed as housewife and that she was born on August 18, 1911 in Budapest, Hungary; that she was married to applicant on November 18, 1938 in Budapest, Hungary; that she immigrated to the United States from Southampton, England and landed in New York. References on this petition were HAROLD P. ROBERTSON, 175 Prospect Avenue, Trenton, New Jersey and HENRY DE W. SMYTHE, Lafayette Road, Princeton, New Jersey. Both of these individuals are professors at Princeton. Certificate of Naturalization number 5760792 was issued to KLARA VON NEUMANN on December 26, 1942.

Chief of Police EDWARD MAHAN, Princeton Police Department, Princeton, New Jersey, advised that there was no record of applicant ever

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT BUREAU

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EP FILE NO. 116-204

REPORT MADE AT EL PASO, TEXAS	DATE WHEN MADE 4/7/47	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 4/2,4/47 bk	REPORT MADE BY [REDACTED] fcc
TITLE JOHN VON NEUMANN - 3 aka, John R. Von Neumann		CHARACTER OF CASE ATOMIC ENERGY ACT - APPLICANT	
SYNOPSIS OF FACTS VON NEUMANN employed by University of California at Los Alamos, New Mexico, Project, as consultant in applied mathematics and thermo-dynamics, intermittently since October, 1943. Services rendered by him considered extremely valuable. Director of that Project, recommends applicant highly in all respects. No credit or criminal record Los Alamos or Santa Fe, New Mexico.		Classified by SP1AG/DM Declassify on: OADR 4-10-89 #296598 AGENCY <i>Photo</i> REQ. REC'D 12-8-52 REP'D FORM 1-4-54 BY <i>g</i>	
REFERENCES: Bureau file number 116-1914. Bureau letter to Newark Field Division, dated March 24, 1947.		- RUC - photo to A-7 SWP by <i>Winkler</i> 4/1/54 photo 12/29/50 photo 12/29/50	
DETAILS: At Los Alamos, New Mexico		EMPLOYMENT RECORD (S) PC-050 1 photo 10/29/54 photo 12/29/50	
The file maintained by the Personnel Office of the University of California, Los Alamos, New Mexico, regarding the applicant was made available by Miss DOROTHY CARTER of that office. An examination of this file reflected that JOHN R. VON NEUMANN had first been employed by the University of California at the Los Alamos Project on October 2, 1943, in the capacity of a consultant and has made periodic visits to that Project in the same capacity. The file otherwise contained no information of pertinence. It consisted largely of administrative correspondence in regard to compensation and travelling arrangements in connection with VON NEUMANN's visits to Los Alamos. Miss CARTER informed that the applicant's stays at Los Alamos were generally of three or four weeks duration and that he occupied temporary living quarters while there. Other than the data that was contained in his file and the above, she could furnish no information.			
APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>RC Loran</i>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES	
COPIES OF THIS REPORT (5) - Bureau (AMSD) 2 - El Paso		116-1914-7 RECORDED SE 3 EX-37 MAY 15 1947 504	

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EP #116-204

about the applicant. She recommended Dr. BRADBURY, Director of the Project, as being the person best able to furnish information concerning the applicant.

Dr. N. E. BRADBURY, Director of the Los Alamos Project, advised that VON NEUMANN has been regularly utilized as a consultant at Los Alamos in the fields of applied mathematics and thermo-dynamics in connection with the development of the Atomic Energy Project since 1943. He stated that he personally has only been associated with the applicant in this connection since 1944 but he is aware that VON NEUMANN was active in this respect during 1943.

The services rendered by the applicant, Dr. BRADBURY stated, have been extremely valuable and in fact, at the present time, he is attempting to complete arrangements whereby VON NEUMANN's services can be obtained more frequently than heretofore. Dr. BRADBURY advised that he has a high personal regard for the applicant, whom he regards as a completely loyal citizen and of whom he has never heard or observed anything of a derogatory nature. He informed that VON NEUMANN's associates are the highest type of individuals and that he has never known, or heard, of the applicant showing any subservitive tendencies or associating with persons having such a reputation. He also advised that VON NEUMANN rendered exceptional service to the Navy Department in connection with some of their wartime experimental work.

CREDIT AND CRIMINAL RECORDS

At Los Alamos, New Mexico

Captain H. D. WISE, Provost Marshal, caused a search to be made of the files of his office for a possible record relating to the applicant and subsequently advised that the search had been made with negative results.

At Santa Fe, New Mexico

The files of the Merchant's Credit Association were reported by BERT BROWN, Manager of that service, to contain no record of the applicant.

The records of the Santa Fe Police Department and of the New Mexico State Police, Santa Fe, New Mexico, were searched by Sergeant TOM GONZALES and Officer ARCHIE WHITE, respectively, but no record of the applicant was on file.

- REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN -

Committee as an expert on explosives, on a part-time voluntary basis without compensation. He resigned effective September 4, 1942, in view of contemplated work for the Navy Department.

He was reappointed in the N. D. R. C., Div. 2, as Consultant, April 1, 1944, which appointment terminated May 17, 1946.

The records of the Bureau of Ordnance, Navy Department show that the applicant was employed by that bureau September 7, 1942, for intermittent duty at twenty-five dollars per diem as a consultant on research and explosives. Personnel services contracts were executed for each period of employment, the last one terminating on August 31, 1945. The Office of Naval Intelligence cleared him for this employment in 1942. The ONI file revealed that the applicant had been an associate of Oscar Morganstern, Professor of Economics at Princeton, N. J., who was described as a "dangerous German alien"; K. A. SOLISSEN, Vice President of Wilmington Chemical Association; and one DR. VELMA WILSON.

War Department records reflect that the applicant is presently on active appointment, as of September 20, 1940, as an "Expert", employed by the War Department Bureau of Ordnance, Aberdeen, Md., at \$25.00 per diem, for not more than 90 days continuous service or 180 days intermittent service for any one fiscal year. Employment authority has been granted each year.

- REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN -

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

APR 10 1947

TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson.....
Mr. E. A. Tamm.....
Mr. Clegg.....
Mr. Glavin.....
Mr. Ladd.....
Mr. Nichols.....
Mr. Rosen.....
Mr. Tracy.....
Mr. Carson.....
Mr. Egan.....
Mr. Gurnea.....
Mr. Harbo.....
Mr. Hendon.....
Mr. Pennington.....
Mr. Quinn Tamm.....
Mr. Nease.....
Mr. Gandy.....

WASHINGTON FROM BOSTON 4 9 4.13 P

DIRECTOR URGENT

JOHN VON NEUMANN, DASH THREE, AEA APPLICANT. DR. CARL T. COMPTON LISTED
AS REFERENCE BY APPLICANT WILL NOT RETURN TO HIS HOME UNTIL AROUND
APRIL EIGHTEENTH. HE IS PRESENTLY ON A BUSINESS TRIP THROUGHOUT THE
UNITED STATES MAKING ONLY ONE DAY STOPS. HE WILL BE INTERVIEWED IMMEDI-
ATELY UPON HIS RETURN. BUREAU DEADLINE WAS SET FOR APRIL TEN.

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FBI
MAY 13 1947
J. Edgar Hoover

5 MAY 13 1947

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DIRECTOR AND SAC URGENT

JOHN VON NEUMANN - THREE, AEA APPLICANT. REBUFILE ONE ONE SIX DASH ONE NINE ONE FOUR AND LETTER OF MARCH TWENTYFOUR, FORTYSEVEN. ONI CLEARED APPLICANT IN NINETEEN FORTYTWO FOR NAVY DEPT. EMPLOYMENT, BUT DEVELOPED FOLLOWING DEROGATORY INFORMATION. APPLICANT HAD BEEN CLOSE ASSOCIATE OF OSCAR MORGANSTERN, PROF. OF ECONOMICS, PRINCETON, N. J., WHO WAS DESCRIBED AS A QUOTE DANGEROUS GERMAN ALIEN UNQUOTE, K. A. SOLMSSEN, VICE PRESIDENT OF WILMINGTON CHEMICAL ASSOCIATION, WILMINGTON, DEL., AND ONE UNIDENTIFIED DR. VELMA WILSON. EXTENT OF ASSOCIATION NOT INDICATED. THIS INFO. FURNISHED FOR YOUR ASSISTANCE IN YOUR INVESTIGATION OF INSTANT CASE.

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116-1914-12

15 MAY 8 1947

File
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Mr. Tolson	
Mr. E. A. Tamm	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Ladd	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tracy	
Mr. Carson	
Mr. Egan	
Mr. Gurnea	
Mr. Harbo	
Mr. Hendon	
Mr. Pennington	
Mr. Quinn Tamm	
Mr. Nease	
Miss Gandy	

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APR 28 1947

TELETYPE



- Mr. E. A. Tamm
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Ladd
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Tracy
- Mr. Carson
- Mr. Egan
- Mr. Gurnea
- Mr. Harbo
- Mr. Hendon
- Mr. Pennington
- Mr. Quinn Tamm
- Mr. Nease
- Miss Gandy

WASHINGTON FROM BOSTON 7 28 5.28 P

DIRECTOR URGENT

JOHN VON NEUMANN, THREE, AEA APPLICANT. REURTEL APRIL TWENTYTWO, FORTY-SEVEN. DR. KARL T. COMPTON POSSESSES NO DEROGATORY INFORMATION CONCERNING APPLICANT. REPORT FOLLOWS.

U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE
F.B.I.

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT BUREAU

FILE NO. 116-183

REPORT MADE AT BOSTON, MASS.	DATE WHEN MADE 4/29/47	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 4/4,9,28/47	REPORT MADE BY [REDACTED] MM b7c
TITLE JOHN VON NEUMANN-3			CHARACTER OF CASE ATOMIC ENERGY ACT APPLICANT
SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: Dr. KARL T. COMPTON of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, advised through his Secretary, that Applicant is 100 per cent American and thoroughly patriotic. He knows of nothing detrimental concerning the Applicant.			Classified by <u>SP1 NG/TAM</u> Declassify on: OADR 4-10-89 # 276598
REFERENCE Bureau File 116-1914 Bureau letter to Newark dated 3/24/47			AGENCY <u>Photo - State</u> REQ. REC'D <u>10-3-53</u> REP'T. FORW <u>4-4-54</u> BY <u>J. J. [REDACTED]</u> 100 photo A7 sub By liaison 4/1/54 conf. photo CIA 12-20-51 sub
DETAILS: Reference Dr. KARL T. COMPTON of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, Massachusetts, upon his return from Honolulu reported, through his Secretary, Miss ANN LEADY, the following: Although he had not had any close contact with the Applicant for the past few years, he has heard of him from other mutual acquaintances from time to time. Dr. COMPTON explained that he considered NEUMANN to be 100 per cent American and that he never had any reason to question his patriotism. He said that he considered him to be thoroughly patriotic and would recommend him highly for a confidential position. Dr. COMPTON made it known that he has never heard anything detrimental concerning the Applicant.			
APPROVED AND FORWARDED: [Signature] SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE			DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES 116-1914-14 RECORDED EX-37
COPIES OF THIS REPORT 5 BUREAU (AASD) 2 BOSTON 2006 AEC 5/2-47C			

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ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

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The investigation of this case in the Boston area was primarily handled by Special Agent [REDACTED] who encountered difficulty in contacting Dr. COMPTON, Applicant's reference, because of his absence from the country.

In view of Bureau teletype dated April 22, 1947 to omit interview with Dr. COMPTON unless he indicated that he possessed derogatory information concerning the applicant, arrangements were made by Special Agent [REDACTED] to have Miss LEAHY, Dr. COMPTON's Secretary, contact him in this matter. Miss LEAHY was telephonically contacted by the writer on April 28, 1947 and the information set forth in the details was obtained. The personal interview with Dr. COMPTON was therefore omitted.

REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN

PERSONNEL SECURITY QUESTIONNAIRE

5566

INSTRUCTIONS - All sections must be completed - Write none when applicable - Type or print all answers. If space not adequate for complete answers, attach a supplemental sheet to this form.

1. NAME (Last, First, Middle)
von Neumann, John2. OTHER NAMES (Include maiden name, if married woman)
-----3. NORMAL HOME ADDRESS OR PRINCIPAL RESIDENCE FOR PAST 15 YEARS
26 Westcott Road, Princeton, N.J.4. ALL OTHER PERMANENT ADDRESSES FOR PAST 15 YEARS.
(Apt. or R.F.D. No., Street, City, State, and dates there)
(all in Princeton, New Jersey)1931-32 Kingston Road
1932-33 6 Morven Place
1933-35 102 Library Place
1935-36 Cleveland Lane & Elm Road
1936-37 Stockton St., & Library Pl.
1937-38 Peacock Inn
1938-39 98 Stockton Street
1939 to date: 26 Westcott Road5. DESCRIPTION (Check which) ☒ MALE ☐ FEMALE
RACE HEIGHT WEIGHT COLOR EYES COLOR HAIR
White 5'9" 185 lbs. Grey Brown6. (Check which) ☒ SINGLE ☐ DIVORCED
☒ MARRIED ☐ WIDOW(ER)
7. BIRTH DATE
28 DAY 12 MONTH 08 YEAR8. BIRTHPLACE (City, County, State or Country)
Budapest, Hungary9. CITIZENSHIP
U. S. A.IF NATURALIZED DATE
January 7, 1937

CERTIFICATE NUMBER

Federal District Court, Trenton, NJ

IF ALIEN: PORT OF ENTRY

DATE

ALIEN REGISTRATION NUMBER

10. DRAFT CLASSIFICATION
11ABOARD NO. AND ADDRESS
Mercer County Nat11. SOCIAL SECURITY NO.
none

12. MILITARY SERVICE

SERIAL NUMBER BRANCH FROM TO (Yr)

LEGAL RESIDENCE WHEN DISCHARGED

13. EDUCATION (All schools above elementary)

School	Location	Year	Year	Degree
High School	Budapest, Hungary	1918	1921	"Abiturient"
Berlin University		1921	1923	(Graduation)
Federal Institute of Polytechnics (Zurich)		1923	1925	Dipl. Eng. Chem.
Budapest Univ.		1925	1926	PhD. Math.

14. EMPLOYMENT (List all employment and dates)

From	To	Organization	Location
1931	1933	Professor of Mathematics	Princeton University
1933	to date	(Research)	Institute for Advanced Study

18. REFERENCES (Name three persons, not relatives or employers, who are well acquainted with you)		ADDRESS	YEARS KNOWN
NAME			
Rear Admiral L. L. Strauss		Atomic Energy Comm., Washington DC	3
Colonel L. B. Simon		Ballistic Research Lab. Aberdeen, MD	8
Rear Admiral W. S. Parsons		U. S. Navy Dept., Washington, DC	4
Professor O. Veblin		Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton, NJ	19

FILES DIVISION
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19. ARRESTS (Include all arrests and fines other than minor traffic violations)			
CHARGE	DATE	PLACE WHERE ARRESTED	DISPOSITION
	F B U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE		

CERTIFICATION

I CERTIFY THAT THE INFORMATION CONTAINED ABOVE IS CORRECT AND COMPLETE TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE AND BELIEF. I UNDERSTAND THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES WILL INVESTIGATE THE INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN, AND THAT ANY FALSE STATEMENT IS SUFFICIENT CAUSE FOR REJECTION OF THE APPLICATION OR DISMISSAL AFTER APPOINTMENT.

DATE _____ USUAL SIGNATURE OR MARK OF EMPLOYEE (Sign Original Only)

TO BE FILLED OUT BY AGENCY OR FIRM EMPLOYING

AGENCY OR FIRM TO EMPLOY APPLICANT
**Brookhaven National Laboratory
Associated Universities, Inc.**

ADDRESS
**P. O. Box 150
Patchogue, Long Island, N. Y.**

BRIEF JOB DESCRIPTION (Job Title, Duties and Location - Description should not reveal classified information)

**Consultant - Principal Scientist -
Dept. of Physics**

Class S

WILL APPLICANT HAVE ACCESS TO RESTRICTED DATA:

☐ YES ☒ NO

(Check the one block applicable)

☒ FINGERPRINT CARD ATTACHED

☐ T - 1 ATTACHED (RESULTS OF FBI
FINGERPRINT FILE CHECK)

☐ FBI IDENTIFICATION NUMBER

DO NOT COMPLETE SPACE BELOW

REFERRED TO F.B.I.

RECEIVED FROM F.B.I.

SIGNATURE OF APPROVING AUTHORITY (OFFICIAL OF EMPLOYING COMPANY
CERTIFYING AUTHORITY OF EMPLOYMENT)

A.R. Lasky

16.

ALL ORGANIZATION MEMBERSHIP

NAME, ADDRESS, TYPE (Inclusive dates and any office held)

American Mathematical Society	Professional
Mathematical Association of America	"
American Physical Society	"
National Academy of Sciences	"
American Philosophical Society	"
American Academy of Arts and Sciences	"
Academy of Sciences of Lima, Peru	"
Hungarian Mathematical-Physical Society	"
Nassau Club, Princeton, New Jersey	Social
Cosmos Club, Washington, D. C.	Social

17.

RELATIVES (parents, spouse, children, brothers and sisters, living or dead)

RELATION	NAME IN FULL	ADDRESS	COUNTRY OF BIRTH	PRESENT CITIZENSHIP
Mother	Margaret von Neumann	169 Hicks St., Bklyn, NY	Hungary	U. S. A.
Wife	Klara von Neumann	26 Westcott Rd. Princeton	"	U. S. A.
Daughter	Karina von Neumann	same, also c/o Kuper S. Gillette Ave., Bayport Long Island, New York	U. S. A.	U. S. A.
Brothers	Nicholas von Neumann	1320 New Hampshire Ave.	Hungarian	U. S. A.
	Michael von Neumann	Washington, D. C. 169 Hicks St., Brooklyn	"	Hungarian

14. EMPLOYMENT (Cont'd.)			
DATE	TYPE OF WORK	NAME OF EMPLOYER (COMPANY OR ORGANIZATION)	ADDRESS (where employed)
RECEIVED MAY 26 5 11 PM '47 F.B.I. U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE RECEIVED-STAT SE F.B.I. U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE			

15. FOREIGN COUNTRIES VISITED (Since 1930) (Exclusive of military service)			
COUNTRY	DATE LEFT U.S.A.	DATE RET'D U.S.A.	PURPOSE
Hungary, Germany	May 1930	Sept. 1931	Vacation, Lectures
"	May 1932	Sept. 1932	"
" Italy	May 1933	Sept. 1933	"
" England	May 1934	Sept. 1934	"
" Eng. & Russia	May 1935	Sept. 1935	" Mathematical Cong.
" France	May 1936	Sept. 1936	"
"	May 1937	Sept. 1937	"
"	May 1938	Dec. 1938	Family affairs
England	Jan. 1943	July 1943	Government Service
Southwest Pacific	July 1946		Government Service

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

UNITED STATES
ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

Honorable J. Edgar Hoover, Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
U. S. Department of Justice
Washington 25, D. C.

APR 18 1950

Attention: Mr. [REDACTED] b7C

Subject: JOHN VON NEUMANN, AEC-#2686
#6-1914

Dear Mr. Hoover:

Reference is made to the report of Special Agent [REDACTED] dated at Newark, New Jersey, April 9, 1947. b7C

This report indicated that [REDACTED] b7D

Since Dr. Von Neumann's part in the atomic energy program is reported about to be expanded, it will be appreciated if the Bureau will advise as to whether it has received any information which might indicate association or communication [REDACTED] other than that set forth in the report of reference, or any other information concerning Dr. Von Neumann which might have derogatory implications. b7D

Your assistance in providing this data will be appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

Francis Hammack

Francis Hammack
Acting Director
Division of Security

RECORDED - 16

INDEXED - 16

36 MAY 24 1950
EX-124

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

PERSONNEL SECURITY QUESTIONNAIRE

INSTRUCTIONS.—All sections must be completed. Write "None" when applicable. Type or print all answers. If space not adequate for complete answers, attach a supplemental sheet to this form. All addresses must show street number, street, city, and State.

1. NAME (Last, first, middle)

von Neumann, John SF-10806 NY

2. OTHER NAMES (Include maiden name, if married woman)

none

PRESENT ADDRESS

DATE

26 Westcott Road,
Princeton, N. J. 1940 to present

ALL OTHER ADDRESSES FOR PAST 15 YEARS

DATE

Peacock Inn, Bayard Lane,
Princeton, N.J. 1938-1939

84 Stockton St.,
Princeton, N.J. 1939-1940

5. DESCRIPTION (Check which) ☐ MALE ☐ FEMALE

RACE

HEIGHT

WEIGHT

COLOR EYES

COLOR HAIR

6. (Check which)

☐ SINGLE

☐ DIVORCED

☒ MARRIED

☐ WIDOW(ER)

7. BIRTH DATE

DAY

MONTH

YEAR

28

Dec

1903

8. BIRTHPLACE (City, county, State, and country)

9. CITIZENSHIP U.S. ☐ ALIEN ☐

IF U.S. CITIZEN, INDICATE WHETHER—

(A) BY BIRTH ☐

(B) DERIVATIVE ☐

DATE

CERTIFICATE NO.

PLACE

IF ALIEN, INDICATE

(C) BY NATURALIZATION ☐

PETITION NO.

DATE

CERTIFICATE NO.

PLACE

ALIEN REGISTRATION NO.

DATE

PORT OF ENTRY

10. DRAFT BOARD NUMBER AND ADDRESS WITH WHICH REGISTERED

11. SOCIAL SECURITY NO.

150-26-8831

12. PERMANENT STATION, RANK, AND ADDRESS IF NOW IN MILITARY SERVICE

12A. MILITARY SERVICE (Past or present)

SERIAL NOS.

BRANCH

FROM (Yr.)

TO (Yr.)

EDUCATION (All schools above elementary)

NAME OF SCHOOL

ADDRESS

FROM (Yr.)

TO (Yr.)

DEGREES

No change

17. ARE YOU NOW OR HAVE YOU EVER BEEN A MEMBER OF ANY ORGANIZATION WHICH HAS BEEN DESIGNATED BY THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY GENERAL AS RE-
 QUIRED UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF EXECUTIVE ORDER 28357? If for your convenience, there is attached to this questionnaire as Appendix A, the current list of such organizations,
 Appendix A is hereby made an integral part of this Personal Security Questionnaire.

NO
or "Yes" or "No"

18. ARE YOU NOW, OR HAVE YOU EVER BEEN, A MEMBER OF ANY COMMUNIST ORGANIZATION? No
Answer "Yes" or "No"

No
Answer "Yes" or "No"

20. ARE YOU NOW, OR HAVE YOU EVER BEEN A MEMBER OF ANY ORGANIZATION, ASSOCIATION, MOVEMENT, GROUP, OR COMBINATION OF PERSONS WHICH ADVOCATES THE OVERTHROW OF THE CONSTITUTIONAL FORM OF GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES, OR OF ANY ORGANIZATION, ASSOCIATION, MOVEMENT, GROUP, OR COMBINATION OF PERSONS WHICH HAS ADOPTED A POLICY OF ADVOCATING OR APPROVING THE COMMISSION OF ACTS OF FORCE OR VIOLENCE TO DENY OTHER PERSONS THEIR RIGHTS UNDER THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES, OR OF SEEKING TO ALTER THE FORM OF GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES BY UNCONSTITUTIONAL MEANS? No

ANSWER "Yes" or "No"

21. IF YOUR ANSWER TO QUESTIONS 17, 18, 19, OR 20 IS "YES," STATE THE NAME OF THE ORGANIZATION, DATES OF MEMBERSHIP, AND EXTENT OF PARTICIPATION. AN EXPLANATION REGARDING MEMBERSHIP IN ANY OF THESE ORGANIZATIONS MAY BE ATTACHED HERETO ON A SEPARATE SHEET OF PAPER, IF YOU DESIRE TO EXPLAIN THE CIRCUMSTANCES OF YOUR MEMBERSHIP.

[illegible]

22. RELATIVES (Parents, spouse, divorced spouse, children, brothers, and sisters, living or dead. Name of spouse should include maiden name and any other names by previous marriage.)

RELATION	NAME IN FULL	AGE	ADDRESS	COUNTRY OF BIRTH	PRESENT CITIZENSHIP
	No change				

REFERENCES (List three persons, not relatives or employers, who are well acquainted with you)

NAME	ADDRESS	YEARS KNOWN

4. HAVE YOU EVER BEEN ARRESTED, INDICTED, OR SUMMONED INTO COURT AS A DEFENDANT IN A CRIMINAL PROCEEDING, OR CONVICTED, FINED OR IMPRISONED OR PLACED ON PROBATION IN CONNECTION WITH SUCH A PROCEEDING, OR HAVE YOU EVER BEEN ARRESTED OR REQUIRED TO DEPOSIT BAIL OR COLLATERAL FOR THE VIOLATION OF ANY LAW, POLICE REGULATION OR ORDINANCE (EXCLUDING MINOR TRAFFIC VIOLATIONS)? No
 IF YOUR ANSWER IS "YES" LIST ALL SUCH CASES IN ITEM 25. IN EACH CASE GIVE: (1) THE CHARGE OR NATURE OF THE OFFENSE; (2) THE DATE; (3) THE PLACE WHERE ARRESTED; (4) DEPOSITION OR THE PENALTY IMPOSED, IF ANY.

25. ARRESTS (Include all arrests and fines other than minor traffic violations)

CHARGE	DATE	PLACE WHERE ARRESTED	DISPOSITION

CERTIFICATION
 I CERTIFY THAT THE ABOVE INFORMATION IS CORRECT AND COMPLETE TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE AND BELIEF. I MAKE THIS STATEMENT TO THE U. S. ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION, WITH THE UNDERSTANDING THAT IT WILL BE USED BY THE COMMISSION IN CARRYING OUT ITS DUTY TO PROTECT THE SECURITY OF THE ATOMIC ENERGY PROJECT, AND WITH KNOWLEDGE THAT ANY FALSE STATEMENT OR OMISSION OF MATERIAL FACT MAY BE SUFFICIENT CAUSE FOR REJECTION OF MY APPLICATION OR DISMISSAL AFTER EMPLOYMENT. FURTHER, THAT ANY FALSE STATEMENT HEREIN MAY BE PUNISHED AS A FELONY UNDER SECTION 1001, TITLE 18, U. S. CODE.

April 17, 1953
 (DATE)

James Newman
 (USUAL SIGNATURE OF PERSON FILLING OUT QUESTIONNAIRE)
 (Sign original only)

TO BE FILLED OUT BY AGENCY OR FIRM EMPLOYING

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF DUTIES (Description should not reveal classified information)

Consultant to K-25 Engineering Div.
 Subcontract No. 186, Under W-7405-eng-26

NAME OF AGENCY OR FIRM

Carbide and Carbon Chemicals Co.
 Union Carbide and Carbon Corp.

ADDRESS

P. O. Box P., Oak Ridge, Tenn.

WILL PERSON HAVE ACCESS TO RESTRICTED DATA?

☐ YES ☐ NO

WILL PERSON HAVE ACCESS TO AN EXCLUSION AREA?

☐ YES ☐ NO

(Check the one block applicable)

☐ FINGERPRINT CARD ATTACHED

☐ T-1 ATTACHED (RESULTS OF F. B. I. FINGERPRINT FILE CHECK)

☐ T-2 ATTACHED

James Newman
 SUBCONTRACT DEPARTMENT
 (SIGNATURE AND TITLE OF OFFICIAL REQUESTING CLEARANCE)

UNITED STATES
ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, 25, D. C.

IN REPLY REFER TO:
SP:FH

May 15, 1953

Honorable J. Edgar Hoover, Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
U. S. Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

Attention: Mr. [REDACTED] b7C

Subject: JOHN VON NEUMANN, 10806-NY

REINVESTIGATION

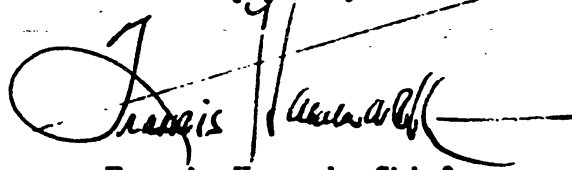
Dear Mr. Hoover:

the
There are attached hereto ~~three copies of~~ Personnel
() fingerprint card
Security Questionnaire and () FBI Form T-1
() FBI Form T-2

for the above-named individual who has been investigated
previously by the Bureau under the provisions of the Atomic
Energy Act of 1946.

It is requested that a reinvestigation relative to this
individual be conducted and that we be furnished with the
results at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely yours,



Francis Hammack, Chief
Personnel Security Branch
Division of Security

Enclosure:

MX New PSQ dtd April 17, 1953, to be returned to AEC by FBI.
(FPC, T-1 Or T-2 not available.)

100-30877
EFK:ab

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

NEWARK, N. J.

5/19/53

Transmit the following Teletype message to:

AIR-TEL

DIRECTOR, FBI (116-1914)

JOHN VON NEUMAN - SF, AEAA. REBUAIR-TEL 5/15/53 AND NWK LET
TO BUREAU 4/16/53. COMMUNICATION FROM STATE DEPT. MENTIONED
IN PARAGRAPH 2, PAGE 5 OF REFERENCED NWK LET IS A PHOTOSTATIC
COPY OF AN INCOMING TELEGRAM. THIS COPY IS MARKED RESTRICTED
AND WAS RECEIVED FROM THE STATE DEPT. THROUGH LIAISON CHANNELS
ON 7/17/50. THIS TELEGRAM IS DATED 7/14/50 AND IS FROM BERLIN,
TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE. THE CONTENTS OF THIS MESSAGE IS AS
FOLLOWS:" SED NEUES DEUTSHLAND JULY 13, ANNOUNCED THAT COMMUNIST
DOMINATED GERMAN ACADEMY OF SCIENCE IN BERLIN SOVIET SECTOR,
HAD ELECTED TWO AMERICANS AS ASSOCIATE MEMBERS. AMERICANS ARE
JOHANN VON NEUMANN, PROFESSOR OF MATHEMATICS, AT PRINCETON
AND RICHARD V. MISES, PROFESSOR OF MATHEMATICS AT HARVARD.
ACCORDING DEUTSHLAND ELECTION TOOK PLACE JUNE 29. PARAGRAPH
WOULD APPRECIATE DEPARTMENT'S CONTACTING NEUMANN AND MISES
SOONEST TO ASCERTAIN WHETHER THEY AWARE OF ACADEMY'S ACTION AND
WHETHER THEY ARE WILLING TO ISSUE STATEMENTS REFUSING ELECTION.
IF NEUMANN AND MISES UNAWARE OF COMMUNIST FRONT NATURE OF

REG. MAIL

CC: NWK 116-119
NWK 65-4096

Approved: DSH

Special Agent in Charge

Sent

M

Per

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Belmont _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Harbo _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Egan _____
Mr. Gurnea _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. Pennington _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Mr. Nease _____
Tele. Room _____
Mr. Holloman _____
Miss Gandy _____

PAGE 2
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Transmit the following Teletype message to:

ACADEMY, IT SHOULD BE POINTED OUT THAT ALFRED WEBER, MEINECKE, AND OTHER PROMINENTS RECENTLY RESIGNED FROM ACADEMY AFTER IT HAD SENT A FRIENDSHIP TELEGRAM TO STALIN USING THEIR NAMES WITHOUT THEIR KNOWLEDGE. PARAGRAPH. CELEBRATION OF 250TH ANNIVERSARY OF ACADEMY NOW TAKING PLACE IN BERLIN. COMPLETELY DOMINATED BY COMMUNIST PROPAGANDA AND PRESENCE OF SOVIET DELEGATES." THIS PHOTOSTAT IS LOCATED IN NWK FILE 100-30877 ENTITLED "JOHN R. VON NEWMAN", NO BUFILE LISTED. *RECEIVED BY ROUTING SLIP.* HOSTETTER

Approved: _____
Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____ M Per _____

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

BUREAU

b7C

~~SECRET~~

REPORT MADE AT Baltimore, Maryland	DATE WHEN MADE 9/17/53	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 7/24, 27; 8/3, 6, 10, 11, 13, 26; 9/16/53	REPORT MADE BY [REDACTED] /kss
TITLE JOHN VON NEUMANN, SF 10806 NY			CHARACTER OF CASE AEA E
# 916598 Classified by <u>SP1AGTAM</u> Declassify on: OADR 4-10-89 AGENCY <u>Info-CSD</u> REQ. REC'D <u>11-26-54</u> REP'T FORN. <u>12-1-54</u> BY <u>JW-dob</u>			
SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:			
REFERENCE: Bulet to Newark dated July 20, 1953. b7C Report of Special Agent [REDACTED] Baltimore, Maryland, dated April 8, 1947. Baltimore Airtel to Bureau dated September 17, 1953.			
1cc [REDACTED] (S) b1 BDE-AMS 10/28/54			
DETAILS: <u>AT ABERDEEN PROVING GROUND, MARYLAND</u>			
<u>EMPLOYMENT</u>			
Mrs. THELMA GREENFIELD, Clerk, Civilian Personnel Division, made available the Civil Service 201 file for the appointee, which indicated that he was granted an excepted appointment on August 18, 1942, as a Consultant, for the Ordnance Department at Large, Aberdeen Proving Ground, under Section 8, of Military Appropriations Act of 1943, for services when required during fiscal year of 1943. His appointment has been extended every year, and his present appointment expires June 30, 1954. No derogatory information appeared in the file. cc-acc 9/22/54 GWS			
Dr. R. H. KENT, Associate Director, Ballistics Research Laboratories, advised that he has known the employee since he first came to the Proving Ground as a consultant, and that he considers the employee to be a loyal American citizen of good character and with reputable associates. 18 1 13			
APPROVED AND FORWARDED: [Signature]		SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	
COPIES OF THIS REPORT		DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES	
5 - Bureau (116-1914) 1 - Baltimore (116-213) 2 cc to Atomic Energy Commission FEB 18 1954		116-1914-23 31 SEP 18 1953 [Signature]	

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U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 16-50255-2

~~SECRET~~

Dr. LEWIS DEL SASSO and Dr. CURTIS LAMPSEN, Ballistic Research Laboratories, who have known the employee since 1937 and 1940 respectively, consider the employee and his wife to be persons of excellent morals and character, with reputable associates, and unquestionably loyal to the United States. LAMPSEN has known the employee and his wife on a professional basis only, and as a result of his appointment to the Scientific Advisory Committee, and as a consultant to the Laboratories. DEL SASSO has known the employee through the above contacts, and also was associated with him professionally and socially at Princeton, New Jersey.

Mrs. LOUISE A. DEL SASSO, Government Employee, Army Chemical Center, Maryland, a former employee of VON NEUMANN, who has known him since 1937, considers the employee and his wife to be loyal Americans, of excellent character and with reputable associates.

CREDIT AND CRIMINAL

Chief J. BEN RAY, Aberdeen, Maryland Police Department, and Deputy Sheriff WILLIAM CARR, Harford County, Bel Air, Maryland, advised that there is no record on file in their departments identifiable with the employee or his wife. It is noted that Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland, is in Harford County.

The files of the Credit Bureau of Baltimore, Inc., and of the Violations Section of the Maryland State Department of Motor Vehicles, both of Baltimore, Maryland, as caused to be searched by Special Employees [redacted] respectively, contained no record identifiable with the employee or his wife.

The files of the Maryland State Police, Headquarters, Pikesville, Maryland, as caused to be searched by Special Agent [redacted] contained no record identifiable with the employee or his wife.

MISCELLANEOUS:

BEN G. DENNEY, Jr., Assistant Post Intelligence Officer, Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland, advised that no information reflecting adversely on the character, loyalty or associates of the employee, has been brought to the attention of the Post Intelligence Officer.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

SECRET

ALL b7C

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

BUREAU

REPORT MADE AT SAN FRANCISCO	DATE WHEN MADE 9/18/53	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 8/3,4,9/9,10,11,14/53	REPORT MADE BY [REDACTED] lp
TITLE JOHN VON NEWMANN SF 10806 NY			CHARACTER OF CASE AFAB
SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: REFERENCE: Bulet to Newark dated 7/20/53. DETAILS: The following investigation was conducted by SA [REDACTED] <u>AT BERKELEY, CALIFORNIA</u> MRS. MILDRED WILLIAMS, Personnel Officer, University of California Radiation Laboratory, produced records reflecting JOHN VON NEWMANN, date of birth not shown, address listed as Institute of Advanced Study, New Jersey, was employed as a consultant September 15, 1952. MRS. WILLIAMS stated records reflected that on June 1, 1953 the employee had worked at Livermore, California for three weeks as a consultant. No further information relative to the employee appears in the files of the Radiation Laboratory at Berkeley, California. The following investigation was conducted by the writer: <u>AT LIVERMORE, CALIFORNIA</u> EMPLOYMENT ROBERT C. BECKER, Security Officer, Radiation Laboratory, advised that his records do not reflect any unfavorable information concerning the employee. He stated that the employee was employed by the University of California, Berkeley, California, as a consultant on several occasions. He was at the Radiation Laboratory in Livermore in November, 1952 for several weeks and again in June, 1953 for three weeks. ROBERT MAINHARDT, Radiation Laboratory, stated that he is acquainted with the employee and his wife, KLARA, and that he helped make the arrangements			AGENCY Photo-051-Sub 10/1-4 REQ. REC'D 11-26-54 REP'T FORW. 12-1-54 BY [REDACTED]
APPROVED AND FORWARDED: [Signature] SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES COPIES OF THIS REPORT 5-Bureau (116-19114)(AM) 1-San Francisco (116-42150) 2 cc to Atomic Energy Commission FEB 18 1954 SEP 21 1953			

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U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 16-50255-2

SECRET